



BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994

133 S. Fitzhugh St.

YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

IDENTIFICATION

Burns - Kirk - Newcomb Farm

1. BUILDING NAME(S): _____
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE: ---
3. STREET LOCATION: 400 Newcomb Road (off Kirk Road)
4. OWNERSHIP: a public ☐ b private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: Arthur Newcomb ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14612
6. USE: Original: farm/residence Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☒ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☐ other: _____
Roof = asphalt shingles. Foundation = fieldstone.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☒
(if known) b. wood frame with light members ☐
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This doesn't require any justification about its rating - it's a 'red' - there's no question about that. It's a real 'landmark' house. Just the fence alone sets off the site." P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Red



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☐ b. zoning ☒ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☒ e. deterioration ☐
f. other: I-390 Expressway borders property to the east.
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☒ -2
d. privy ☒ e. shed ☒ -2 f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features: mature deciduous & coniferous trees/shrubs
j. other: well ; skeet shooting range (NE corner of site);
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary): board fence to S. & E.
a. open land ☒ b. woodland ☐ of house.
c. scattered buildings ☒
d. densely built-up ☐ e. commercial ☐
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒ Other: agricultural
h. other: Expressway to East of the property; former railroad
right-of-way(abandoned) & creek to S. of property.
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1835-1837 (per owner)
- ARCHITECT: not determined
- BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: agricultural: former farm residence & outbuildings.

11c.

The front entrance porch on the south elevation (facade) was reconstructed in 1970; the badly-deteriorated gabled porch with square posts and dentil trim was removed and the present porch, reproduced with the same design and detail as the original, was built.

The first floor and five second-floor double-hung windows had their sash replaced in 1970. The new, 1/1, wood sash have thermopane glass and snap-in muntins inside. They were custom-made to fit these window openings.

The dark green, louvered wood shutters on the exterior are replicas of the original shutters; due to deterioration, the original shutters were replaced, mid/late-20th century.

Contemporary picture windows have been installed on the west and south elevations, c. 1940s.

In the east parlor, the current window frames are replacements that were custom-milled to duplicate the original ones with beaded and curved moldings and beaded aprons, 1970.

The brick chimney in the east gable was rebuilt from the basement up to the attic in 1957.

The deteriorated kitchen floor was replaced by a wide-plank floor with wooden plugs (covering the screwheads to suggest the original floor), installed in 1953.

The small, second-floor room in the northeast corner of the house was converted into a kitchen with painted plaster walls, chair rail, linoleum floor and counter top, wooden cabinets, and sink in 1937.

The concrete basement floor was installed in 1934.

The crawlspace at the east end of the basement was dug out to full height, a concrete floor was poured, concrete block walls were laid (and faced with fieldstone on the exterior) in 1961.

The present kitchen was moved to current location in 1932; in 1948, Arthur Newcomb removed the partition separating two rooms here and combined the space into the present modern kitchen with two new windows overlooking the creek. The

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11c. continued

kitchen was further remodeled in 1987.

In the living room, the Colonial Revival mantel and fireplace were installed in 1936; they were built onto the existing chimney, which was previously connected to a wood-burning stove there.

The wood trim in the living room was added after 1938.

(see #18 for the complete description of the evolution of the present configuration of the house).

17. The Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm is located on a 73.4-acre parcel on the north side of Newcomb Road in the northeast quadrant of the town. Although the address of this property is "Newcomb Road," that roadway is no longer used as a public road, but, instead, functions as a driveway that extends east off of Kirk Road, the main public road to the west. Newcomb Road (the unpaved driveway) extends over 1,000 feet east and dead-ends at the farm's garage and farmhouse. The immediate yard surrounding the house includes extensive lawn and mature specimen trees. To the immediate south of the house the original well with stone-lined shaft is extant; a square, cast concrete, cover sits atop the well shaft.

To the north and west of the farmhouse and garage are several agricultural outbuildings of various dates of construction. Beyond the outbuildings is a mature pine plantation planted in 1937. To the north of the pine plantation is a 5-acre meadow occasionally used as a regulation clay target trap shooting field. Also to the north of the pine plantation is a 10.5-acre woodlot (post-1934) and a pond dug in 1983. To the south of the house is a pasture, Round Pond Creek, and the abandoned railroad right-of-way. To the east of the property are open fields and the I-390 Expressway. To the west of the house and garage is a cultivated field that borders Kirk Road. The surrounding neighborhood has scattered post-World War II housing.

18. Two-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, frame farmhouse (c. 1835-37) with one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled west wing and two, one-story, shed-roofed north additions. The farmhouse is on a rise of land above the creek's floodplain and consists of the main house in a vernacular Federal style, about 40-feet-wide by 20-feet-deep. The west wing was added about the late-1850s and measures about 28.5-feet-wide by 30.5-feet deep.

The main 2-1/2-story section has a rectangular plan with a broadly pitched gable roof. It faces south. The south elevation is the main facade and has a symmetrical, five-bay plan with center entrance. The house retains its original wood clapboard siding, corner boards, simple, narrow cornices with corner returns and louvered window shutters (20th century reproductions). Brick interior chimneys are located at the east and west ends of this 2-1/2-story section. Most of the house sits on a fieldstone foundation. The fieldstone was gathered on this property. At the east end of the 2-1/2-story, main block is a contemporary, concrete block foundation faced with a fieldstone veneer.

The main entrance in the south elevation has the original six-paneled door (pair of short panel above, a pair of longer panels in the middle and a pair of medium panels below). The door is constructed with wood pegs. The door is covered with 12-light, wood storm door. The door is flanked by narrow wood pilasters. There is a rectangular transom with four windows above the door. The entrance is sheltered by a one-bay, gable-roofed entrance porch supported by two square posts with narrow molding and dentil trim below a frieze band of plain square spindles. The porch was reconstructed in 1970 to reproduce exactly a badly-deteriorated porch of unknown date (it was built prior to owner, Arthur Newcomb's childhood, which would be the first decade of the 20th-century). The porch floor is of stone (the original porch had a wood deck).

Fenestration is regular and symmetrical with 1/1, double-hung wood sash. The sash were installed in 1970 and have interior, snap-in muntins. These muntins give each sash the appearance of having eight individual pieces of glass, which was the design of the original historic sash previously located in each window opening. The window frames are flat boards. The dark green, louvered, wooden, exterior shutters are replicas of the original shutters (removed because of deterioration).

18. continued

The east elevation features similar fenestration and also includes two, small, six-pane square windows in the gable ends, as well as gable end returns and a narrow cornice.

The north elevation has smaller, rectangular window openings arranged asymmetrically. The windows have double-hung wood sash. The first-story has one window with its original 12/8, sash and a smaller, double-hung, window with 1/1 sash. The second story also has an original 12/8, double-hung window and small 1/1, double-hung window. The two, small, 1/1 windows were installed about 1934.

The west elevation of the main 2-1/2-story block has an entrance with a paneled door with six lights in the upper part. The second story has a window above the door, matching the windows on the south elevation. The attic has a semi-circular opening filled with a fan-shaped panel of wooden louvers.

The 1-1/2-story, gable-roofed, west wing is of design and materials similar to the 2-1/2-story main block. The south elevation (facade) has an entrance with a paneled door (glazing in the upper part) and a 20th-century, wooden, storm door. There are two, 1/1, double-hung windows with flat board frames. The southwest corner of this wing was originally an open shed and summer kitchen. They were enclosed in 1905 and converted to a year-'round kitchen in 1948. The kitchen has a large, contemporary, fixed-pane picture window on the south elevation. The upper half-story has three, small, single-pane windows. The west elevation of this wing has a contemporary, Chicago-style picture window (large, fixed-pane center window flanked by rectangular, three-pane windows) installed in 1948. The upper story has a pair of 20th-century, side-by-side, three-pane windows.

A one-story, shed-roofed addition was built onto the north elevation of the west wing in the second half of the 19th century. The north elevation of the addition has two, 12/8, double-hung windows. The east elevation has a small, 1/1, double-hung window and a large, 1/1, double-hung window.

A one-story shed was added to the northwest corner of the west wing in 1912. Its south elevation has a paneled door (with a one-light upper section). The west elevation has two, small, four-light windows. The north elevation has an exterior, vertical-board door and a small, six-pane window.

18. continued

In the northeast angle between the main, 2-1/2-story block and the east elevation of the west wing is a small, one-story kitchen installed in 1932. It is located in a former storage area and entrance shed. Its north elevation has a paneled door (glazing in the upper half), a 20th-century, wood storm door, and a 6/1, double-hung window. The east elevation has a six-pane, casement window.

On the interior of the 1835-37 house, the frame was built of hand-hewn oak timbers from trees cut on the property. The frame has mortise-and-tenon joints fastened with oak pins. Square-cut, iron nails were used in the original carpentry. Interior partitions are original and are built of planks that are one-foot-wide by 2.5-feet thick; hand-split lath is nailed onto the planks that support the plaster.

Inside the front entrance (south elevation) is a center hall and a central, enclosed staircase with winders (wedge-shaped steps) at the bottom. To the east of the hall is a formal parlor and west of the hall is the original kitchen-living room. To the north of the staircase is another small room.

In the parlor (to the east) are corner posts that are covered with their original boards with beaded edges. The original flat board baseboards also have beaded edges. The original door frame has a beaded and curved molding. The replacement window frames were custom-milled in 1970 to duplicate the original frames with beaded and curved moldings and beaded aprons. The parlor floor is one-inch-thick oak boards. The parlor was originally heated by a stove with a stovepipe rising through the second floor to enter a chimney in the attic. The chimney was rebuilt from the basement up to the attic in 1957.

To the west of the front hall, the original kitchen has always been used also as an all-purpose family living room. It is still used as a living room, but cooking and dishwashing had been done in the modern kitchens since 1932. This original kitchen retains its original fireplace and fire compartment. The fireplace is 5.5-feet-high by nine-feet-wide; the fire compartment is 3.75-feet high by five-feet-wide. The fireplace is still equipped with its original iron crane and cooking pots, the original wood mantel shelf, and brick hearth. To the left of the fireplace is the original beehive bake oven with ash chamber below. This fireplace and

18. continued

beehive oven were boarded over from the 1870s until 1934, when Arthur Newcomb re-opened the fireplace. Upon removing the boards, he found not only the fireplace and oven intact, but the original crane and cooking pots still in place.

The original kitchen has exposed corner posts, original beaded baseboards, and plain board door and window frames. A narrow curved molding runs around the ceiling. When the deteriorated floor had to be replaced in 1953, Arthur Newcomb installed wide planks with wooden plugs covering the screwheads to suggest the design of the original floor.

The small room to the north of (behind) the staircase was formerly used as a bedroom, but was converted into a bathroom in 1937 after electrification permitted water to be pumped automatically to modern plumbing fixtures.

Upstairs in the main, 2-1/2-story block are a master bedroom in the west end, a bedroom and former clothes press (or walk-in closet) in the east end, and a bedroom to the north of the stairs.

The master bedroom has its original fireplace with simple wood mantel. Like the east parlor, it retains original beaded corner boards, baseboards, and four-paneled door. Reproduction, late-20th-century, flat, window frames have beaded sills and aprons.

The southeast bedroom and the north bedroom behind the stairs have similar trim. The clothes press (little room in the northeast corner) was originally used for hanging and storing clothes. In 1937, it was converted to a kitchen and it still retains its painted plaster walls with their chair rail, linoleum floor and counter top, wooden cabinets and sink (but no refrigerator or stove).

The second-story floors are of tulip poplar wood (whitewood or cucumber wood). Doors between rooms have four panels, mortised and pinned with wooden pegs. Doors to attic or storage spaces are of wide vertical boards with chamfered battens. Some wrought iron Suffolk and Norfolk door latches remain.

The attic is unfinished and provides a view of the timber framing. The basement was originally earthen-floored and only the west part was full height; a concrete floor was

18. continued.

poured here in 1934. In 1961, the eastern crawl space in the basement was dug out to make the entire basement full height, a concrete floor was poured, and concrete block walls were laid, faced with fieldstone on the exterior. The original joists of unsquared tree trunks remain; Arthur Newcomb has installed additional joists of modern sawn lumber for added floor rigidity.

The west wing was built in the late 1850s as a self-contained dwelling unit when the farm began to be occupied by three generations. A brick chimney is located on the ridgeline of the roof. A window on the first floor and one above that on the second floor were replaced by doors. The first floor of the west wing was originally a kitchen-living room area, but now is used only as a living room. It originally had a stove, but in 1936 a fireplace with a Colonial Revival mantel was added to the original chimney (by that time, cooking was being done in the 1932 kitchen). The west wall of this room was the original partition wall. Wood trim in this room was added after 1938.

West of the west wall (with chimney) were originally an open shed and summer kitchen with an adjacent pantry to the north. The open shed was enclosed about 1905. In 1948, Arthur Newcomb removed the north partition separating this room from the pantry and converted the combined space into a modern kitchen with two, new windows (south and west walls) overlooking the creek and Newcomb Road. The kitchen was further remodeled in 1987.

On the north side of the west wing, a one-story, shed-roofed addition with two bedrooms was constructed perhaps in the 1870s when Arthur Newcomb's grandparents were married. In 1950, a toilet was installed in a former closet in this addition.

On the second floor of the west wing is a large bedroom, created by combining two original, smaller bedrooms (one of which housed the hired man and apple pickers). The partition was removed in 1927. In 1938, the deteriorated window frames were replaced by new wooden frames of the same size. The flat board window and door frames were retained. About the same time, a baseboard with an edge of curved molding was added and a scalloped board was applied over the beam running along the top of the low, south wall.

18. continued

At the west end of the west wing's second floor, was originally an unfinished attic workroom for used for repairing harness, drying herbs, and storing seed corn. This work room was finished off about 1937 as a bedroom and display area for mementoes and antiques, including the leather worker's bench and clamp for repairing harness. Originally unlined, the room is now lined with wide, vertical, stained planks. Baseboards and door and window frames are flat boards. The ceiling is painted plywood panels with stained strips covering the joints.

The 1912 shed attached to the northwest corner of the west wing is unfinished inside and was originally used for storing wood and coal. It is now used as a mudroom and laundry and is still equipped with a hand-operated pump. Before 1927, the farm's only pump was a hand pump directly above the well (south of the house). In 1927, a hand pump was installed in the summer kitchen and another in the 1912 shed. In about 1936, when electric pumps replaced hand pumps, the worn-out hand pump in the shed was discarded and the 1927 kitchen hand-pump replaced it. Thus, the present pump dates from 1927.

In 1932, a hallway and storage area between the original 1835-37 kitchen and the north wall of the house was combined with a storm shed just outside a north entrance there and this space was converted into a new kitchen. The north wall of the house was removed here and the original partition between the 1835 kitchen and the back hall (now new kitchen) was retained. Smaller and easier to heat than the 1835 and late-1850s kitchens, this new kitchen became the heart of the house during the winters of the Great Depression. All the wood trim is plain, flat boards.

Modern plumbing, heating, and electric wiring have been added to the house. A coal furnace was installed in 1918 and replaced with a modern oil furnace in the main house and another in the wing. In 1936, electricity became available and Arthur Newcomb wired the house. In 1939, this permitted electric pumps to replace hand pumps for the two cisterns and for the well.

Originally, water was carried from the creek and from a spring nearby on the south side of the creek. A well was dug about 1872 southwest of the house. It is three-feet-wide, 29-feet-deep, and is lined with hand-laid stone. In 1881 a

18. continued

cistern was built on the north side of the 1835 house where it joins the west wing to store the soft rain water from the roof run-off. It is constructed of rubble stone sealed inside with waterproof plaster and re-sealed with cement in the 1930s. The cistern is covered by flat stone slabs several feet long and several inches thick; the stone was quarried in Rochester at Hopper Hill, which is just west of Lake Avenue (opposite Cherry Road and Boxart Street). Access to the interior of the cistern was provided by drilling and cutting a square opening through the center of one of the slabs. In 1916, a second cistern was built of poured concrete under the west wall of the west wing. The well and both cisterns are still sources of water for the house.

A sidewalk extends east from the driveway, across the front lawn and to the house. The part of the sidewalk located to the south and west of the house was built in 1940-42 of flat stones (gathered from the creek and fields) with mortared joints. In the 1960s, a western extension to the sidewalk was constructed with contemporary concrete blocks; it extends to the driveway and garage.

In addition to the historic farmhouse, the property is distinguished for its fine collection of agricultural outbuildings, structures, and objects (see attachments for site map).

Contributing shed-roofed chicken house (1904) located to the east of the house on the fence line. The walls are clad with narrow, vertical wood boards. Two multi-pane square windows are located on the south elevation. A vertical-board wood door is located on the west elevation. The former chicken run is outside (to the east) of the fence. It is now used for storage.

Contributing frame, gable-roofed, small barn (1928) to the northwest of the contemporary, four-car garage. The small barn is clad with wood shingles. Some of the lumber used in the construction of this small barn came from the large, 19th-century barn to the east, blown down in a 1927 storm. This small barn was subsequently constructed on the former site of the large barn. In 1966, this small barn was moved west to its present site and the contemporary, four-car garage was constructed (on the previous location of both the large barn and this small barn). A sliding track door and an overhead

18. continued

door are located in the east elevation. A small, fixed-pane windows and four-paneled door are located in the north elevation.

Contributing cast iron hog kettle (19th century) located north of the pine plantation. This large kettle was formerly used at hog butchering time for scalding the killed pigs. This method of scalding eased the task of scraping the bristles off of the skin.

Contributing gable-roofed, frame privy (built 1881, addition, 1950) located northwest of the house. Used until 1941, the original privy is the gable-roofed south section of this building. It includes a 6-pane window and a wide-board door. In 1950, the north and west, shed-roof additions were built onto the original privy, converting it into a stable for a pony. The additions are also sided with wood shingles. A wide-board door and six-pane window are located on the east elevation.

Additional 20th-century buildings and structures are located on the site . The buildings/structures are not detrimental to the property, because their scale and materials are reminiscent of the many small outbuildings that surrounded 19th-century farmhouses and because they continue the evolution of the property. They are:

Small, shed-roofed, frame chicken coop (1950) located northwest of the house. It has vertical board wood siding and a three-pane window on the south elevation. It retains its nesting boxes, but is now used for storage. This building was originally a trap shooting house used by Eastman Kodak employees; it was moved to this site and converted into a chicken coop.

Small, frame garden shed (1958) to the north of the 1950 chicken coop. This building has a shed roof and wood shingle siding.

Building for trap shooting machine (1960) at the edge of the meadow north of the pine plantation. This is sided with horizontal weatherboard painted dark green. It houses a trap shooting machine used for regulation clay target trap shooting. The Lakeplains Waterfowl Association still holds regulation skeet shooting here

18. continued.

twice a year. To the south, just inside the pine plantation is a **privy constructed in 1980.**

Swinging iron bell mounted on tall wood post (mid-20th century) located to the immediate northwest of the house. This bell originally hung on the large barn (blown down in 1927). The bell was used to call in the farm workers and family to meals. It is still rung for lunch on Saturdays.

Non-contributing, gable-roofed, four-car garage (1960) to the west of the house. Built on the site of the farm's large, 19th-century barn (blown down in 1927 windstorm), the garage is of light frame construction, sided with clapboards and corner boards. It has a concrete floor, four overhead doors, and a square cupola with louvered sides on the ridgeline of the roof.

The property had several additional buildings that are no longer extant. On the west side of the driveway (and west of the well) was a brick smokehouse. There was also a duck and goose coop. Both the smokehouse and the coop were removed in the first two decades of the 20th century. A cider mill (no longer extant) was formerly located at the northeast corner of the driveway (Newcomb Rd.) and Kirk Road.

The pine plantation was planted in 1936, after the freeze of 1934 killed off the orchard here. Arthur Newcomb planted pine seedling, as they were very inexpensive (you could buy 1,000 seedlings for several dollars).

Archeology

No archeological studies have been made of the property. No Native American settlement is known in this part of Greece. Immediately southeast of the farmhouse and above the creek is the site of the log cabin in which the first settlers lived before building the present house. A flagpole marks the spot but no ruins remain visible. Stones from the log cabin's fireplace were removed.

20. The Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as an outstanding historic farm property with the original farmhouse (c. 1835-37),

20. continued.

several agricultural buildings, and a portion of the original acreage intact. It is also historically significant for its association with the agricultural heritage of Greece. The property is important in that it has been in continuous use as a farm throughout its history and has remained in the ownership of the same family since its early-19th century beginnings. Today, the agricultural fields are rented out and cultivated by a nearby farmer.

The farmhouse is a rare, surviving example in the town of an intact, early-19th-century, Federal-style residence and farmstead built and established by one of the original settlers of northern Monroe County and still occupied by his descendants. The two-and-one-half-story, rectangular plan house with west wing is representative of the vernacular, Federal-style farmhouse built in Greece in the early and mid 19th-century. Its distinctive massing, plan, and details are all characteristic of the Federal style, popular in this region from the 1780s to the 1830s.

Purchased in c. 1827-1831 by Terry Burns, an Irish immigrant who had worked on the construction of the Erie Canal and then turned to farming, the property retains its original acreage which was farmed by four generations of Burns' descendants between its establishment and the early 1930s. The religious, ethnic, and geographical origins of the seven generations of Burns' descendants - Catholic, Protestant, Irish, and eastern American of English, Scottish, and Dutch descent, are representative of the 19th century settlement of western New York.

The residence in which they lived was built by Burns in 1835-37. It embodies many of the distinctive characteristics of the Federal style, including a rectangular, side-gabled, main block with a shallow, molded unadorned cornice and small gable returns; a symmetrical, five-bay, center entrance facade; louvered, wooden, exterior shutters; and a semi-circular, louvered fan under the peak of the west gable. The small main entrance porch and door surround exhibit the delicately restrained and attenuated Neo-classical detailing associated with this architectural style, as do such interior features as mantels and moldings.

The relative lack of both interior and exterior decorative embellishment in comparison with high-style urban residences is typical of modest rural examples of the Federal style.

20. continued

Alterations and additions to the residence were utilitarian, reflecting a typical 19th-century agrarian pattern of the growth of a multi-generational extended family, all of whom helped with the farm work. The period of significance (c. 1831-1934) was chosen to reflect the farm's continuous usage as an agrarian enterprise by its founder and his direct descendants.

After the American Revolution, in 1788, Massachusetts investors purchased over 2,600,000 acres in the Genesee River watershed of western New York and white settlement began. At the mouth of the Genesee River, on the west bank, a settlement was founded in the 1790s and named Charlotte. In 1800, a road was blazed and cut westwards from the river along a ridge that ran parallel to the shore of Lake Ontario a few miles south of it. Settlement followed that road and soon occupied land along it. Soon other roads were laid out, e.g. Latta Road, surveyed in 1807, opening the area north of Ridge Road. In 1811, an area was surveyed into lots and designated Township 2 Short Range; it was incorporated in 1822 as Greece, named for the country famous in antiquity and admired in the 1820s for its struggle for independence.

What is now Greece was covered with trees; no Native American villages are known to have occupied North Greece. But the land was fertile, flat, well-watered, and had a climate tempered by the large body of water on whose shore it lay. It attracted hundreds of land-hungry settlers. By 1825, Greece had 1,547 people and 10 years later the population had more than doubled.

The earliest settlers were mostly from New England's rocky farms and from eastern New York, of British origins, and from the British Isles themselves, as was the case generally in New York State, where the influx from New England became "a torrent," according to historian, David M. Ellis. Of the newcomers to New York State in the 19th century, the Irish were the largest group. The northeastern part of Greece had a large infusion of Irish Roman Catholic settlers, starting in the first decade of the 19th century. They established the first rural Roman Catholic church in the State in 1829 on what was (and is) known as "Paddy Hill" for its Irish inhabitants. A list of the names of early settlers of Greece, abstracted from Eight Miles Along the Shore, a history of Greece, is appended; places of origin are noted where the source indicated this information. This list gives

20. continued.

an idea of the principally British origin of early Greece and of the importance of the Irish component. By the time of the 1855 New York State Census, about three-quarters of the population of Greece had been born in the U.S.; of the foreign-born, more than half were from Ireland. In the second half of the 1800s, Dutch and Belgian truck farmers and nurserymen settled in the town. Suburbanization in the 20th century has resulted in a multi-ethnic diversity.

The first settlers on the west bank of the Genesee River went there because of opportunities for trade and shipping. Charlotte and the other little river bank settlements, such as Rochester at the main falls, soon had a varied population of artisans, manufacturers, retailers, laborers, and professional men. Settlers in the hinterland of Greece were primarily farmers who turned to Charlotte or Rochester to sell what surplus they had and to buy what they could not make themselves.

In the absence of agricultural statistics for the early 1800s for Greece, it is not possible to describe farming with certainty before the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825. It seems likely, however, that it followed the pattern vividly described for the area just west of Greece in Saga of the Ridge by J. Howard Pratt. In brief, the first task was to clear the land of trees and plant corn among the stumps as the staple food, using oxen for traction and keeping cows for milk, both of which could survive by browsing on leaves (as horses could not) until hay meadows were cleared and planted. Pearl ash from burning the cut trees was sold for the minimum amount of cash needed. This first phase of agriculture was a subsistence level handicraft economy.

The Erie Canal was completed in 1825, connecting western New York by water to eastern markets and the world. Suddenly, crops whose market price would previously have been swallowed up by transportation costs along the primitive tracks overland, now could be profitably sold to growing urban markets. As soon as the pioneers could pull out the tree stumps they switched from oxen to horses pulling McCormick reapers, planted hay to feed the horses, and planted wheat to sell to Rochester's millers. The Genesee Country became the nation's breadbasket and Rochester became the "Flour City."

In Greece, according to the 1855 census, half the ploughed acreage was in wheat. Nevertheless, agriculture remained

20. continued.

diverse. Pasture and hay meadows occupied about as much land as did crops, and corn more than a quarter of the cropland, in order to feed the horses that provided traction on the farms and in the cities, the cows and chickens which fed not only the farm families but also Charlotte and Rochester, and the pigs and sheep that were about eight times as numerous as the cows. Wool cloth was an important farm product, as were apples and cider from the town's expanding orchards.

But this was to change drastically in the 1850s. Insect infestations ravaged New York's wheat fields and rail freight rates favored the western states. The dominant place of wheat in New York's agriculture was taken by seed and plant nurseries, truck farming, dairy farming, barley and hops for beer and rye for whiskey, and grain and hay for livestock. By 1865, although Greece had increased its cropland, it had less than half as many acres planted to wheat as it had 10 years earlier. Market gardening, pasture land, and hay meadows had increased. Apple orchards continued to be important on Greece farms with around 60,000 bushels of apples produced annually in the mid-1800s. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Greece's farms became more specialized, more market-oriented, more mechanized, and more regulated by laws.

After the invention of the automobile, Greece started to become a bedroom suburb of Rochester, particularly for the thousands of employees of Eastman Kodak Co. whose plants were built in northern Rochester adjacent to Greece and in the town itself. Increasingly since World War II, commercial strips have sprung up to serve the growing population of the town and housing tracts have filled fields and orchards. Yet some agriculture continues. After the freeze of 1934 destroyed the orchards, many were replanted; fields are still ploughed between housing tracts. A quarter of Monroe County land is still farmed.

The following account of the history of the homestead and of the family that has owned the property for about 160 years is abbreviated from a 1957 book written by owner, Arthur R. Newcomb.

The construction of the Erie Canal across New York State in the early 1820s brought hundreds of Irish immigrants to work on it and many settled in Monroe County. One of them was Terry (or Terance/Terence) Burns, born in 1799 in Ireland.

20. continued

He arrived in American in 1821 with little more than the clothing he was wearing, but saved enough to marry and buy a farm. He married Relieva Lloyd in 1822, daughter of a family that had come to Greece from Massachusetts. He was Roman Catholic and she was Protestant but family tradition holds that the Protestant-Catholic hostilities, so bitter in the old world and on our own east coast, were less of a problem on the frontier. The Burns family handled the issue by raising the boys as Catholics and the girls as Protestants.

According to the family's information, Burns acquired the land on Round Pond Creek in Town Lot 35 in 1827; the deed of purchase for 50 acres there was recorded in 1831. The difference in dates could have resulted from the earlier date being that of a purchase agreement with title to be transferred later, perhaps after completion of requirements by the bank that sold that property to Burns. Sales to pioneer settlers sometimes included clauses requiring them to pay for the land in full, to clear a certain number of acres, or to build a house. The \$325 purchase price for the 50 acres would have represented about a year's pay for a canal laborer. In any case, Burns became one of the many Irish settlers in this part of Greece while his wife was part of the "torrent" from New England.

At first the young couple lived in a log cabin but soon Burns cut oak trees from his land to season for building and in 1835-37, Burns built the farmhouse still occupied by his descendant. Carpenters from the neighboring Kirk family (for whom the road is named) and other friends are believed to have helped at a raising bee. Then and since, construction and renovation of the property have been principally be the owners themselves. The house was one of the better ones in Greece at that time. Even 20 years later it was still valued at two to three times the value of the average house in the town, at a time when 14% of the dwellings were still log cabins.

Terry Burns soon expanded the farm, presumably having cleared the first 50 acres. A pioneer could typically clear and plant about 10 acres per year (3). In 1837, he bought 25 acres west of the northern part of his land. (Tax parcels #8 and #9) and in 1838, another 25 acres west of the southern part of his land. No documentation is known to tell us what Burns' farm produced in these early years. If he followed the usual pioneer pattern, he planted corn among the stumps

20. continued

and then wheat as soon as possible, and raised and made almost everything the family consumed. Relieva Lloyd Burns' spinning wheels, still in the possession of the family, suggest that cash was too short to buy all their clothing and blankets so they raised a few sheep and spun and wove their own cloth. In fact, it was while she was spinning outdoors on a fine summer day in 1833 that she saw a swarm of bees, tried to hive it, and was stung to death. She left four children, including Margaret, the eldest. The widowed Terry Burns married his sister-in-law, Statira Lloyd in 1836 and, after her death, he married the former Rosanna Beaty, widow of Patrick Goodwin, and, like Burns, from Ireland. She died in 1876, leaving Terry Burns widowed for the third time. Even as early as 1840 the farm seems to have been prospering enough to hire a man to help work it, as the census lists a young man in his 20s as part of the household.

In 1843 Terry Burns' daughter, Margaret married John Myron Kirk, son of a family of Scottish descent that had come to Greece from Pennsylvania in 1829. The young couple at first lived on the Kirk family farm, in northern Greece not far from Terry Burns' farm.

The 1855 census shows that the importance of wheat in the Genesee Country at that time was also true for Terry Burns' farm and that he also practiced mixed and largely self-sufficient farming. He kept seven horses, two milk cows, three heifers, two oxen, 31 sheep, seven pigs, and three hives of bees; he produced 800 bushels of wheat, more than the 650 bushels of corn, oats, and barley combined, hay, potatoes, beans, clover seed, butter, cheese, and wool. The labor required to clear the expanding fields of stones is evidenced by the huge stone pile on the edge of the north meadow. The house was valued at \$1200, well above the average value of less than \$500 per dwelling in the town.

In 1858 John M. Kirk sold his farm and soon he and his wife and children moved to his wife's parental home to help Mr. and Mrs. Burns run the farm, starting a long-lived pattern of occupation by three-generation extended families who worked the farm together. In preparation for or as a result of the move, the wing was added to the west end of the house so that the younger couple could have their own kitchen. The Kirks had five children, born between 1844 and 1864, to add to the Burns household.

20. continued

One of these children, John Fred Kirk, married in 1871 Rachel Veeder, daughter of a family of Dutch descent from Nantucket, Massachusetts. Rachel's whaler grandfather had retired from the sea and moved west to become a farmer in Greece (at 3460 Latta Rd.) in 1837, as had so many other New Englanders. The young couple lived on in the Burns-Kirk homestead, which now sheltered Terry Burns and his third wife, his daughter, Margaret and her husband John M. Kirk, their son John Fred Kirk and his wife Rachel, and another son and daughter. It may have been the marriage of John Fred and Rachel Veeder Kirk in 1871 that motivated the addition of the two first floor bedrooms behind the west wing. John M. Kirk prospered and gave three of his sons good farms before he returned to Pennsylvania in 1873.

In 1875 a railroad was built westward from the Genesee River, bringing Greece's farms into easier contact with the city of Rochester. The track was laid along the course of the east-west road that followed the south line of Lot 35, now known as Newcomb Road. This construction required the removal of several houses on the road, the relocation of the western part of the road a little farther north, and the abandonment of the eastern part of the road. (The railroad was abandoned in 1978 and the line is now the property of and the right of way for Rochester Gas and Electric Corp.)

Terry Burns farmed his 100 acres as a unit during his working lifetime although he transferred the western 50 acres in 1862 to a daughter, Sarah Burns Butts, and the eastern 50 acres in 1865 to a daughter, Margaret Burns Kirk, retaining life use of the land. By the time Terry Burns died in 1877, both daughters had died and the property was inherited by two sons-in-law and nine grandchildren of Terry Burns. By 1888, one of these grandchildren, John Fred Kirk, by means of inheritance, purchase, and quit claim deeds, had consolidated in his name the ownership of the 75 acres on which the present farmstead is located.

John Fred Kirk farmed the land until his death in 1927. He and Rachel had five children, one of whom, Clara Elizabeth Kirk, married James Henry Newcomb, descendant of a family which had come to Massachusetts from England in the 1600s. James' grandfather had come to Greece in 1817 to be a customs officer at the Port of Charlotte, established in 1805 at the mouth of the Genesee River. Clara E. Kirk and James H. Newcomb were married in 1904. The young couple and James'

20. continued.

parents, George and Sarah Newcomb, lived and worked on the farm with Clara's parents, Fred and Rachel Kirk. James Newcomb also worked for some years at Eastman Kodak Co., the employer then and now of a considerable part of the work force of the town of Greece. James and Clara Newcomb had six children, all born in the family homestead. They grew up on the farm with their parents, both sets of grandparents, a widowed aunt and her two children, and hired men - for a total of 15 to 17 people, enough to fill all the bedrooms and the two kitchens, but the parlor at the east end of the house was reserved for weddings, funerals, and other special occasions.

During the first third of the 20th century, the pattern of mixed farming continued on the farm, with a specialization in fruit and with the sale of eggs, poultry, and dairy products locally. An 18-acre orchard produced apples for sale; a cider mill/vinegar plant was nearby on the railroad line (corner of Kirk and Newcomb Roads). A 10-acre orchard produced pears and peaches. Plums grew in front of the house; Wheat, corn, and oats were grown both for sale and to feed the livestock: five draft horses and a buggy horse (no more oxen), 11 cows whose milk and butter were sold to stores in Charlotte; 8-10 pigs for family consumption of the fresh, smoked, and salt pork; about 75 chickens whose eggs were sold or bartered in local stores; about 25 ducks, 25 geese, and 30 turkeys, sold to regular customers and in local markets. No sheep were kept after about 1900.

The family worked the fields and hay meadows themselves until the barn was badly damaged in a windstorm in 1927. By then, it was becoming increasingly difficult to compete without the mechanization for which they had insufficient capital. James Newcomb had Parkinson's Disease and was finding the work increasingly difficult. So the family replaced the barn with a much smaller one, gave up the large livestock though they continued to keep chickens, and rented out the fields to nearby farmers. They did not replace the peach, plum, and pear trees as they died off, but did continue to grow apples until, in 1934, a severe freeze killed the area's and the Newcomb's apple trees. The family did not replant and their personal involvement with agriculture ended at that time.

The fields have continued to be rented to farmers who plant each year whatever crops the market and governmental policies

20. continued.

make most profitable, thus continuing the agricultural use of the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm.

Clara Kirk Newcomb received title to the farm in 1941. A son, Arthur R. Newcomb, had married Mary E. Barringer in 1935 and brought her home to the farm - to oil lamps, coal and wood stoves and hand-pumped water. Not until 1936 was electricity brought to the house. Then Arthur Newcomb installed modern plumbing, repaired the foundation, roof, and plaster, and renewed all finished. He received the property from his mother in 1955 and continues his careful stewardship of the family homestead to this day.

Arthur and Mary Newcomb had two children, Donald C. and Thomas A. Newcomb. Arthur Newcomb has given the northern part of the property to Donald (as well as a lot in the northwest corner where Donald has built himself a house). He has willed the southern part of the property to Thomas, his wife, Judith, and their children, William, John, and Susan. The Thomas Newcombs work on the property with Arthur Newcomb and spend weekends there, representing the sixth and seventh generations to work on the homestead.

The ethnic origins of the owners of the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm illustrate the settlement of Greece and of the early 19th century Genesee Country: Irish, Catholics, and Protestants from older parts of the U.S., particularly New England, of English, Scottish, and Dutch descent.

The agricultural development of the farm also illustrates the phases that land use has gone through in Monroe County. First came clearing the forest and building a log cabin. The subsistence farming based on corn planted and harvested by hand can only be assumed for this farm since no documentation exists for this earliest period. Then came mixed farming with wheat as the major cash crop and with other crops and livestock raised primarily for family consumption. Next followed a decrease in the importance of wheat, an increase in the importance of fruit, dairy products, eggs and poultry, and a reliance on sale or barter of farm products for manufactured goods. Finally, the fields were combined with others, in this case by rental agreements, to permit the economics of large-scale, market-oriented farming and crops changing according to market forces and government policies; while much of the land now serves as the setting for a residence and for the late 20th century purpose of nature

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preserve.

Traces of the farm's history can be seen in the buildings, the house, especially. The many bedrooms and the additional kitchens remind us of the large extended families that lived here. The loss of the large barn prevents this farm from being a complete example of a 19th century farm. Instead, its loss and replacement by a smaller one in 1928 suggests that, by the 1920s, farm families no longer used horses and oxen which required tons of hay and grain; the garage now on the site of the old barn tells us that the automotive traction and transport have replace them. The large chicken house reminds us that eggs were an important product for the market at the turn of the century and the small 1950 chicken coop tells us that egg production continued past the mid-century. The pig kettle reminds us that swine were an important component of this farm, like most in the area in the 19th century. Above all, the pasture, meadow, and fields surrounding the house tell us that they were what a farm was all about.

Western New York 19th century farms were, typically, a cluster of house and separate outbuildings on a rise of land, surrounded by the owner's fields, meadows, pasture, and often an orchard and woodlot. The National Trust for Historic Preservation states:

"The Irish dimension in the architecture of the American frontier is not a matter of a few discrete forms but of an approach to space generated from social values...the working buildings were arranged close by (the dwelling) frankly stating the farm's functions.... The separately sited American farm ...has one of its sources in the enclosure that massively reorganized the English landscape, replacing compact, cooperative villages with dispersed, independent and profitable farmsteads. But the Irish had always lived on separate farms... and the independent family farm, so fundamental to American social history, can be read as a direct translation to the New World of an elder Irish tradition." (5)

Whether consciously or not, the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm continued that tradition.

Since no comprehensive survey has been made of the farms in Monroe County or in the town of Greece alone, it is informal

20. continued

observation that tells us that the Genesee Country's villages, founded in an age of water power, were built in valleys; farm houses, on the other hand, stand on well-drained knolls wherever possible. North Greece is flat but Terry Burns sensibly placed his home - first a cabin and then the frame house - on a rise above the creek valley.

Construction methods and architectural styles used in rural areas in western New York followed those of the cities, sometimes with a time lag. Log cabins were being built in the country at a time when frame houses were being built in Rochester and other villages. As soon as possible, most log cabins were replaced by frame houses, at first using heavy timbers and then, towards the mid-century, by light or balloon framing. This is just what Terry Burns did with his home.

Architectural historian Paul Malo writes:

"The Federal style prevailed from the earliest settlement here in the last decades of the eighteenth century until well after the opening of the Erie Canal, through the 1830s...the Federal style reflected late and post-Georgian, English tastes. Sometimes called 'Post-Colonial' in this country, it was derived from the elegant work of the Adams' and their contemporaries in England...Refinement of classical elements into thin and attenuated forms was characteristic of this taste. Upstate New York work followed that of New England, as most early settlers came from there. Even frontier pioneers aspired to elegance: delicate cornices, moldings, entrance doorways, fireplaces, and stairways graced early buildings." (6)

This was the style in which Terry Burns built his house in 1835. He used Federal symmetry in the five-bay, center-entrance facade and Federal proportions in the low-to-medium pitched gable roof over a rectangular main clock and in the double-hung windows. The architectural detailing is simple, as might be expected in an owner-built vernacular building; the corner boards, cornice moldings with corner returns, the pilasters flanking the door, and the porch dentil trim are light and refined. The semi-circular attic vent with louvered fan is characteristic of the Federal style. The rectangular transom over the entrance was also used in Federal houses, though an arch was more characteristic in

20. continued

high-style buildings.

A feature that suggests the good sense of the owner-builder, rather than strict adherence to a pattern book or model, is the orientation of the many large windows of the facade toward the south and the use of fewer and smaller windows on the north side, an early example of solar building.

The facade suggests the symmetrical floor plan of the c. 1835 house: a center hall and stair on each floor, flanked by a large room at each end and with another small room behind the stair. The farmhouse kitchen, as was usually the case, was the principal all-purpose room, used for cooking, washing up, eating, indoor work, and leisure. The small bedroom off it was handy for ill or age persons needing care and attention. The other large downstairs room was the parlor, used on this farm, as on others, for special formal occasions. The ample space for the building allowed a parallel orientation with center entrance whereas city houses often had to have their narrow ends to the street with the rooms running back in a line.

The accretion of additions was a typical architectural response to the socio-economic trends toward multi-generational extended farm families. The pioneer was often a young couple. A generation later, their children were marrying and one young couple would stay at home to run and then inherit the farm. When this happened at the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm, a wing was added with a kitchen-living room downstairs for the young couple and two bedrooms upstairs. As their family, in turn, expanded, two more bedrooms were added in a shed extension. In the 20th century, the conversion of a large clothes press or walk-in closet to a kitchen for another young couple was another response to the same situation.

Although the integrity of the house as an example of the Federal style has been somewhat compromised by the window alterations, the relative rarity of Federal houses in western Monroe County, and in particular of houses with center entrance parallel orientation, increases the significance of this surviving example. Without a comprehensive survey of all buildings in the county, no accurate numbers can be cited. However, a survey by the Landmark Society of Western New York of another of the nine western Monroe County towns, Clarkson, has revealed only two Federal frame houses wit

20. continued

parallel orientation of the symmetrical center-entrance facades. A windshield survey in 1987 of the principal roads of the town of Greece turned up only one other similar house (1835 Latta Road). Therefore, the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb farmhouse has at least local architectural significance. The significance is further increased by the use of wood and stone from the place and labor supplied by the family and friends and by the contribution made by its surroundings: the barn, chicken house, privy, hog kettle, creek, meadow, pasture, and fields remain to suggest the 19th century farm.

The property serves an educational role in Greece, demonstrating how large, extended farm families used to live. It is visited by school and adult groups. The educational value of the homestead is enhanced by the remaining 19th century equipment: well, cisterns, hog kettle, hand pump, fireplace and equipment, and the family's collection of antique furniture, tools, spinning wheels, yarn winders, harness bench, and lanterns, handed down since the 19th century. Monroe County still has many extant farmhouses, but few are this early and a decreasing number retain their original acreage, furnishings, and rural ambience, as this one does.

The Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm is architecturally and historically significant as a surviving example of an early-19th-century, Federal style farmhouse built by one of the original settlers of northern Monroe County and still surrounded, in an increasingly rare situation, by its land and some of its outbuildings. The land was purchased about 1827-31 by Terry Burns, an Irish immigrant who had worked on the construction of the Erie Canal, and is still owned and occupied by his descendants. Their ethnic and geographical origins are representative of the settlement of rural western New York and, in particular, of the town of Greece: Protestants from New England and Pennsylvania of English, Scottish, and Dutch descent, and Roman Catholics from Ireland.

The house was built by Burns about 1835 and exhibits many of the characteristics of the Federal style: a rectangular, side-gabled, main block with molded cornice and returns; a symmetrical, five-bay, center-entrance facade; a semi-circular fan in the west gable end; restrained Neo-classical detailing around the entrance. Alterations and additions adapted the building to use by a growing, multi-generational

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household, typical of 19th and early-20th century farms. The period of significance (c. 1831-1934) was chosen to reflect the property's continuous usage as a farm worked by its founder and his descendants. It is believed to be the oldest farmstead in the town of Greece still occupied by descendants of its founder, with house and land retaining their integrity.

21. National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm compiled in 1989 by Elizabeth S. Stewart; site visits and interviews with Arthur Newcomb, 12/1994 and 2/1995.

1
1800-1800
(1) The "torrent" of New Englanders poured into New York State from the end of the American Revolution to about 1820, according to David Maldwyn Ellis, New York: State and City, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY, 1979, page 29.

(2) The 1835-1837 date was received orally by Arthur Newcomb from his forebears. His mother, Clara Kirk Newcomb, told him that in 1927 John Martin, a neighbor living on Janes Road, stated that a close relative of his had told him that the house was finished 90 years earlier (he remembered the date because it was the year his mother died) and that it had taken more than a year to build.

(3) Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, A History of Agriculture in the State of New York, Hill and Wang, New York, 1933, page 110.

(4) Arthur Newcomb is not sure when the fruit trees were planted but thinks about 1890-1910.

(5) National Trust for Historic Preservation, Dell Upton, Editor, America's Architectural Roots, The Preservation Press, Washington, DC, 1986, pages 76-79.

(6) Paul Malo, Landmarks of Rochester and Monroe County, Syracuse University Press, Syracuse, NY, 1974, page 6.

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#10. Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is in the town of Greece, Monroe County, NY (see maps). It consists of 73.4 acres in Town Lot 35 of Township 2 Short Range, i.e. Greece. The legal descriptions are filed in the Monroe County Clerk's office, 39 West Main Street, Rochester, NY . The principal records conveying the land to Terry Burns, the first settler, are: Liber 21 Deeds page 194, June 1831, 50 acres bounded north and south by the lines of Lot 35; Liber 43 Deeds page 318, May 1838, the south half of the 50 acres bounded north, west, and south by the lines of Lot 35. Subsequent actions removed from the latter ~~XXXXXX~~ parcel a narrow wedge in the south west corner acquired for a railroad line, and a 150' X 295' lot in the northwest corner on which Donald C. Newcomb built his house, Tax Account #7.2.

The nominated property is bounded on the south by the southern boundary of Town Lot 35 and the right of way formerly of the Penn Central railroad "Hojack" line and now of Rochester Gas and Electric Corp., along which ~~XXXXXX~~ southern boundary runs Newcomb Road. Round Pond Creek crosses the southeast corner of the property. ~~THE XXXXXXXX BOUNDARY~~ The western boundary of the southern part of the property is the west line of Lot 35, along which runs Kirk Road; the western boundary of the northern part is a line parallel to the west line of Lot 35 and 815 east of it. An east-west line joins these two western boundaries, jogging around Tax Account parcel #7.2. The eastern boundary of the property is a line parallel to the west line of Lot 35 and 1629 feet east of it. The property includes the following tax account parcels:

<u>Parcel Number</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Owner and Mailing Address</u>
7.11 XXXX	37.1	Arthur R. Newcomb, 400 Kirk Rd., Rochester, NY 14612
10.21	4.3	" "
7.12	7.4	Donald C. Newcomb, 532 Kirk Rd., Rochester, NY 14612
10.1	24.6	" "

The nomination includes the original 50-acre purchase by the first settler (the 50 acres on the eastern side of the property) and also the bulk of his 1838 purchase of 25 acres adjacent on the west. The property retains its integrity because it is still owned by descendants of the original settler, is still in agricultural use, and includes the c. 1835 farmhouse.

The land in the inner angle of the L-shaped nomination, at the southeast corner of Janes and Kirk roads (Tax Account #7.2, #8, and #9) is not included. ~~and~~

This land had been purchased by Terry Burns in 1837 and 1838 but:

Tax Parcel #9 was given in 1852 by the Burns family to School District #14 for building a school. The District sold the property after the school closed in 1945; the building is now a residence, not owned by Burns descendants.

Tax Parcel #8 was sold in 1862 by Terry Burns to a descendant collateral to Arthur Newcomb's line and now for many years, since about 1930, it has been owned by the Addison Schofield family, not related to the Newcombs, and the connection with the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm has long since been broken. The parcel is used for the Schofield house and surroundings and, in part, is rented out for farming.

Tax Parcel #7.2 is part of Terry Burns' 1838 purchase and is owned by Arthur Newcomb's son Donald but has not been included in this nomination because it is the house lot for a house built in the 1980s and is not used agriculturally.

These three parcels have lost the integrity of their relationship to the Burns-Kirk-Newcomb Farm.

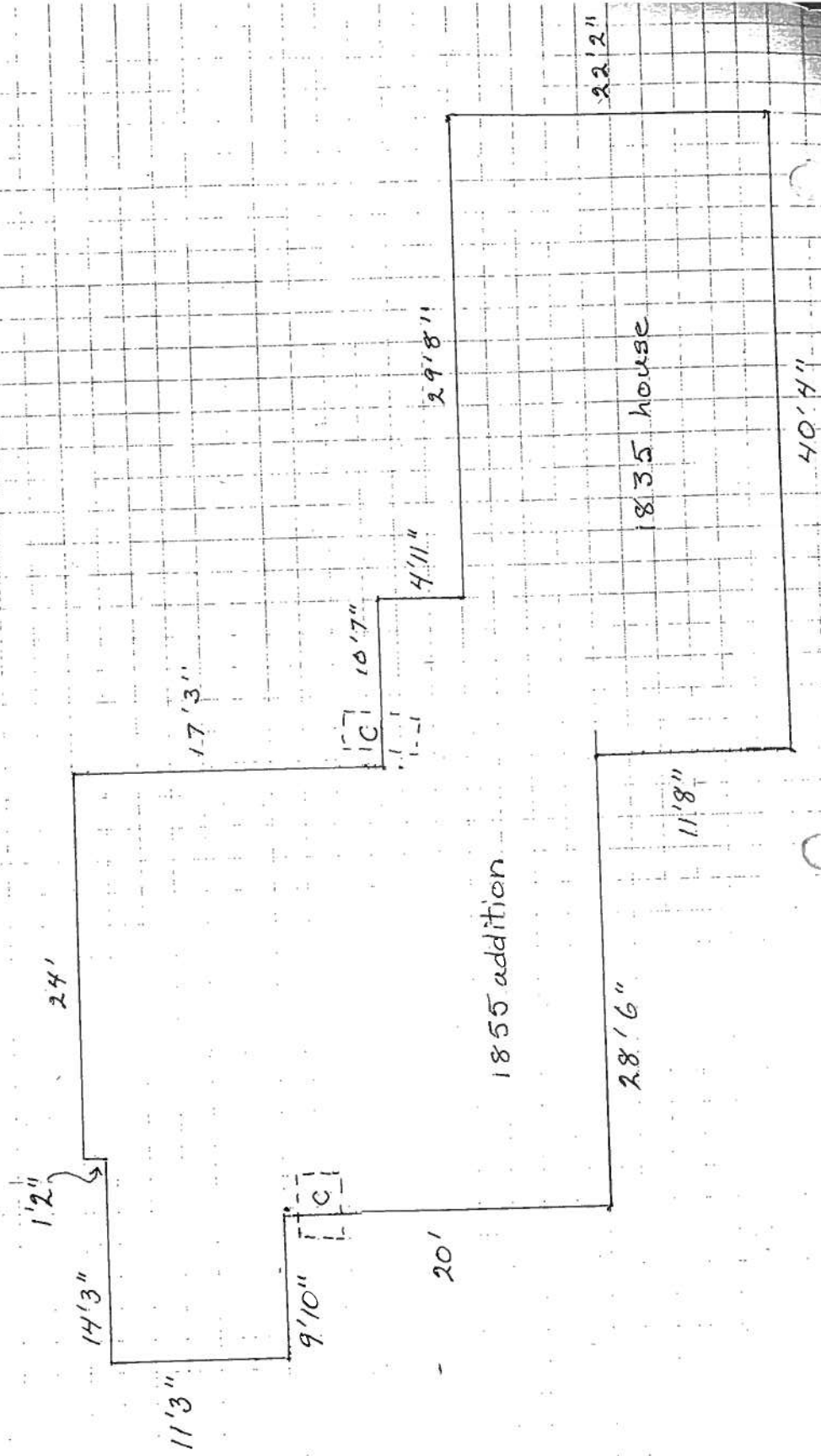
Burns Farm, Greece, Monroe County, NY

Dimensions of farmhouse:

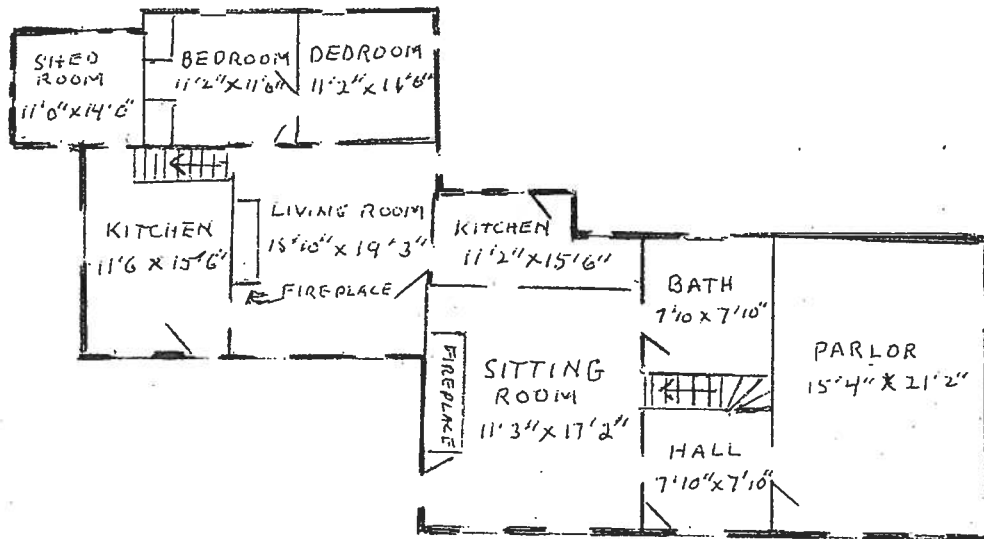
Measurements are approximate; made June 16, 1988.

Compass direction approximate.

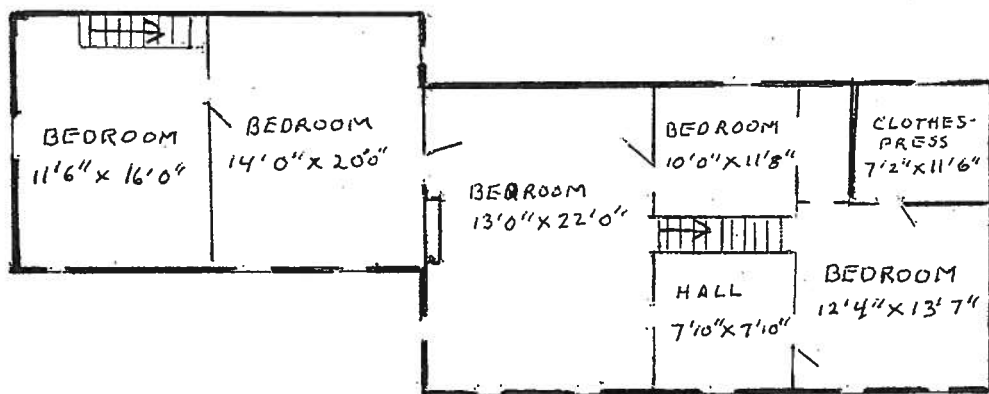
[C] = cistern



NEWCOMB HOMESTEAD FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

Remember Grandpa Kirk'...

the Story of an Early Marriage

GREECE POST
June 7, 1973

By William Aeberli

We have been most fortunate in recent months to have the use of family pictures from Arthur Newcomb's collection and we are doubly proud today to present the oldest wedding picture ever printed in the Greece Post.

The old daguerreotype is of Mr. Newcomb's grandparents, John Fred and Rachel Kirk. The nuptial photo is 102 years old this year. We should be well acquainted with Rachel (Veeder) Kirk by now and it is time for John Fred Kirk to receive some form of "notoriety" in these historical articles.

* * *

John Fred Kirk was a descendant of the William Kirk family who migrated to North Greece from Pennsylvania in 1829 and settled on purchased acreage in the area of the present R G & E Russell Power Station. John Fred's father, John Myron Kirk, was one of the many children of William Kirk and Margaret Burns, eldest daughter of Terry Burns.

Even before he was 21 years old, John Fred was an active young man. He received a certificate to teach a "common school" in Monroe County and taught about one year. Then in the Fall of 1869, he left home and journeyed to Pennsylvania to seek employment in the oil fields.

The oil fields were near Titusville where oil was first discovered in 1859 and where the world-famous Drake's Well created much of the petroleum industry in America. When crude oil began to be drawn from the earth on a commercial basis, the heavily-forested region in Northwestern Pennsylvania afforded employment. Hastily-erected derricks dotted the area and boom towns like Bradford, Pennsylvania, seemed to be created overnight.

* * *

One of John Fred's first jobs in the oil fields was laying pipe for 75 cents per rod. He also drove a team of horses drawing coal for the steam engines powering the drills and pumps.

At times, in the evenings, he clerked in a general store near his boarding house. He later advanced to a regular job operating and maintaining the oil-pumping engines for 35 dollars a month which included board and laundry.

* * *

Before he left home, he had become well acquainted with Rachel Veeder who lived a few miles West of the old Kirk Road. During his absence, they corresponded with one another. When John Fred returned home to visit his parents, he also went to visit Rachel and her parents and in the early part of July, 1870, the couple became engaged.

→ at 3460 Latta Rd.
(also in inventory)

Wedded Today

North Greece, N. Y., January 21, 1871.--Mr. and Mrs. John Myron Kirk and Mr. and Mrs. David A. Veeder announce the marriage of their children, John Fred Kirk and Rachael E. Veeder on Thursday, January 19th at the home of the bride's parents in Latta Road. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Albert Hunla of the Latta Road Christian Church. Attendants were William Patterson and Mary Brown.



#3460

After their engagement, John Fred returned to the oil fields but was lonesome for "his Rachie" and she for him. By the end of the year, he came back home and in January, 1871, they were married.

John Fred did not return to the oil fields. The couple moved instead to his parent's farm to live there the rest of their lives. He was only 21 and Rachel 23 when he became a farmer. He was to inherit the farm, the original Terry Burns settler farm, from his parents.

"Two of the most outstanding characteristics of my Grandfather," Art Newcomb says, "was his mental and physical being. He was hale and hearty. Also, when things weren't going just right, he'd simply lose his patience and cut the air with words. I guess he learned this from working in the oil fields."

"Just for an example of how tough he was, I remember when I was very young Grandpa Kirk was building a shed to the barn. He had placed a ladder against the barn and carrying a large roll of tar paper on his shoulder, commenced to climb to the roof.

"Somehow, he lost his footing, or he slipped, and down he came still holding on to the roll of tar paper. He landed right smack on his back. Without exaggeration, he must have fallen 20 feet. But all he did was roll back and forth on the ground, shaking his head and swearing a blue-streak. Then he got right up and climbed the ladder again with his face as red as a beet. Why, that fall would have killed a person of less stamina--or at least broken some bones, but not Grandpa Kirk!

400 Newcomb Rd., Greece, NY.

"Tough as he was, he was a gentle person and seemed to have loved his grandchildren as much as Grandmother Kirk did because he'd do little things to show his affection. For instance, he would never go to town or

down to Charlotte in the wagon without remembering us in some little way. He'd always bring home candy such as those little mints.

"When we saw him coming down the road, we kids would always run to meet him and climb on the wagon and ask if he brought something for us. We knew he did but Grandpa Kirk just smiled and always pretended that he may have forgotten even when the treat was stuffed in his coat pocket.

"I can't remember Grandpa Kirk not working from dawn to dusk on the farm. He'd go to bed when it was still daylight and get up before dawn. And he did this six days a week for years. All he knew was hard work which was typical of his day.

I wouldn't call him an overly-religious person, but he never worked the farm on Sunday.

"My grandparents were a devoted couple. Grandma Kirk always called him 'Fred.' I never remember them having harsh words with one another. The only thing they did not agree upon was Grandpa's liking hard cider or spirits. His position was really no different from that of other old-time farmers married to women with 19th century fundamentalist principles.

"Many times as I recall, he was accused of taking better care of his horses than his cows. Whether this was fair or not, I do know he had quite an affection for his team. After all, before the days of tractors it would have been foolish to neglect one's only form of motive power!

"Grandpa Kirk maintained a large and well-kept orchard in which trees almost reached to the North side of the farmhouse. In the Fall, all of us, including

Grandma Kirk, would be out there sorting apples. Buyers came to the farm and bought the fruit--after Grandpa Kirk considered the price was right.

"The railroad used to switch box cars over to the siding at Kirk's Crossing and many barrels of apples were shipped from Grandpa's orchard. Also, we used to gather the fruit that had fallen and haul it to the old Cider Mill while it was still in operation.

"The farm was Grandpa Kirk's whole life. Yet, we all saw quite a change in him after Grandma Kirk died in March, 1924. They had been together 53 years. After her death, he simply went down hill and we lost him just three years later.

"I'll always have fond memories of both my Grandparents, especially my 'rough and ready' grandpa who was wedded to the soil and never shirked the responsibilities attached to it!"

GENEALOGICAL MEMOIRS

of the

BURNS, KIRK and
NEWCOMB FAMILIES

Arthur R. Newcomb.

*Written by
Arthur R. Newcomb
1957*

FOREWORD

Great care has been taken to verify all facts, dates, names, places, events, occurrences, etc. This has been accomplished through examination of countless records such as the probate of old wills, deeds, inventories, naturalization papers, and other official documents. Other records examined were births, deaths, marriages and baptisms from local areas, as well as those from a large number of towns and counties in New England and other states. The research also covers a great number of churches, cemeteries and old tombstones; old letters, diaries, books and newspapers; military records of service in early wars of the nation; and information obtained in numerous libraries, and state and county historical societies. Statements of elderly relatives whose memories were still able to penetrate the shadows of yesteryears also aided in the work.

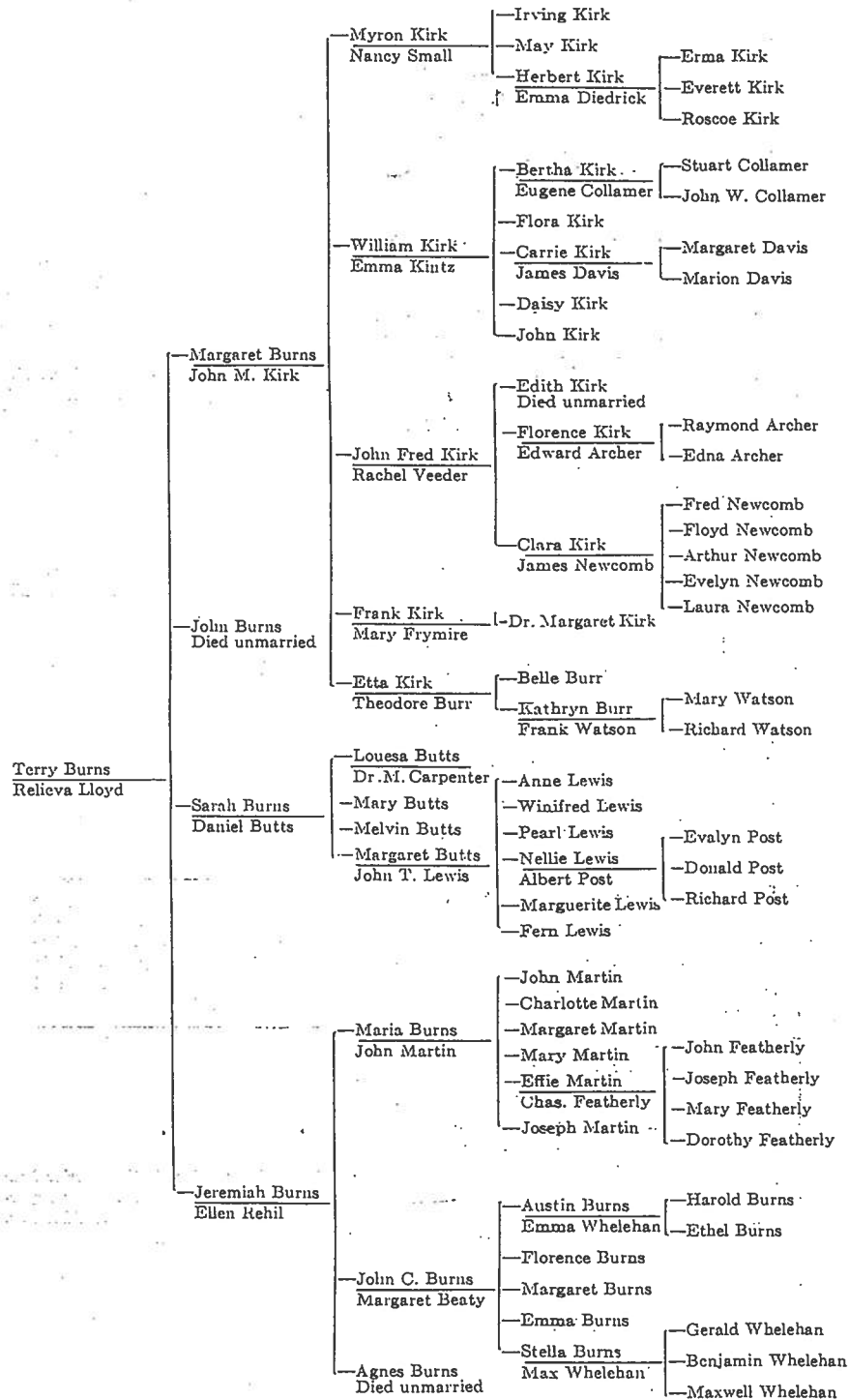
Another important source of information was first-hand knowledge, obtained through the conversations of my grandparents with whom I was closely associated for many years. When my parents were married, my father came here to live at the family home of my mother and her parents. Shortly after this, my father's parents also came here and lived with my father and mother and her parents. In this way, my four grandparents all lived here at the family homestead from the time of my birth until their deaths at various times mentioned in following parts of this book.

During all those years they lived in quiet harmony together—sharing the same house, the same table—co-operating with the household chores and work on the farm. My recollections do not recall any harsh or unkind words ever spoken between them. Also during this time my Aunt Florence's first husband died, and she came here with her two children, to live. All these, along with my parent's five children, plus a hired man and a few apple pickers each fall, made a really sizable household. A blessing it was that the old home was large enough to comfortably shelter them all.

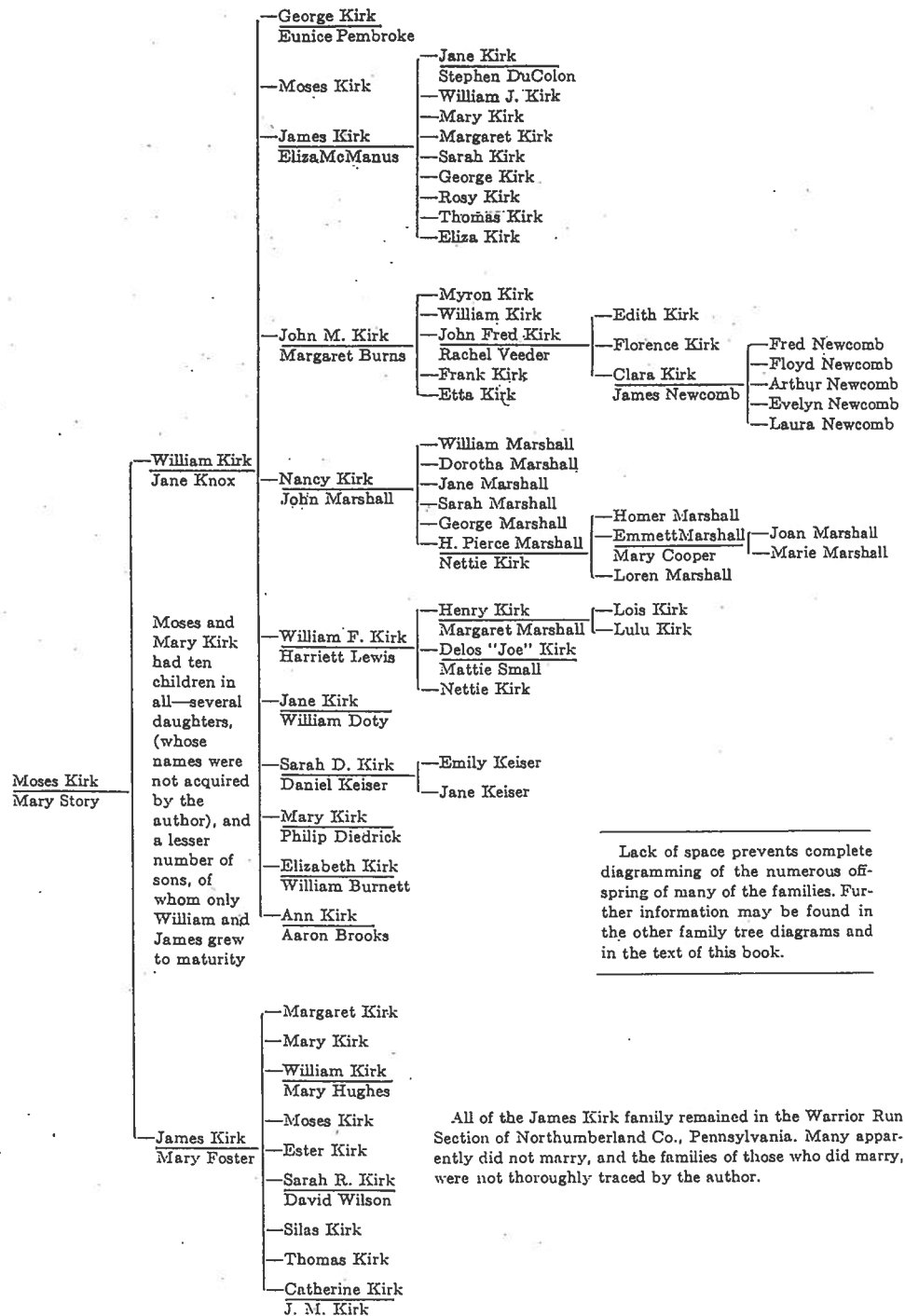
During long winter evenings my grandparents, and other members of the family, often fell to reminiscing in conversations regarding relatives, happenings and events of family affairs. The information I absorbed as a youth through listening, and being subjected to, in the course of these discussions, recollections and conversations, has been of great value and help in being able to write and present this simple genealogy for the pleasure and information of future generations of the family.

In a work of this kind it must of necessity be near impossible not to fall into some errors. In cases where I have found, or been furnished with conflicting names, dates, events, etc., I have adopted such as seemed supported by the greatest weight of evidence.

TERRY BURNS FAMILY TREE



MOSES KIRK FAMILY TREE



(Starting with Andrew Newcomb, first of the name Newcomb in America)

(Starting with Andrew Newcomb, first of the name Newcomb in America)

orn 1618–died 1686)	{ Andrew II and Susannah (below) were children of his 1st wife (name unknown) His 2nd wife was Grace Ricks
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1st GENERATION	Andrew Newcomb I (born 1618—died 1686) { Andrew II and Susannah (below) were children of his 1st wife (name unknown) His 2nd wife was Grace Ricks									
2ND GENERATION	Andrew Newcomb II (1640—1707) married Sarah					Susannah				
3rd GENERATION	Simeon	Andrew	Simon Newcomb (1666—1745) married Deborah	Thomas Sarah	Mary (or Mercy)	Peter				
4TH GENERATION	John	Thomas	Ezekiah Newcomb (1693—1772) married Jerusha Bradford	Obadiah Deborah	Sarah Benjamin	Elizabeth	Simon			
5TH GENERATION	Silas Newcomb I (1717—1773) married Submit Pineo	Peter Anne	Ezekiah Thomas	Jerusha Elizabeth	Samuel	Jemina	James			
6TH GENERATION	Jerusha Daniel	Silas Newcomb II (1743—1792) married Susanna White	Submit Bradford	Hannah Paul	Hannah Jesse	Calvin	John	Isaac		
7TH GENERATION	Sarah Roxanna	Silas Newcomb III (1772—1821) married Louisa Terry	Susa Betsy							
8TH GENERATION	Louisa	Henry Newcomb (1803—1878) married Philocha Clark	Alphonso Marietta Terry	Martha						
9TH GENERATION	Alfred Louisa Jane	William Almira Bianca Frederick	Frances	George Newcomb (1849—1924) married Sarah Stephenson						
10TH GENERATION	James Newcomb (1875—1953) married Clara Kirk			George						
11TH GENERATION	Fred Floyd	Arthur Newcomb (1908—) married Mary Barringer	Evelyn Laura							
12TH GENERATION	Donald Newcomb (1939—)			Thomas Newcomb (1945—)						

THE FAMILY HOMESTEAD

The love and sentimental attachment for the old home, which has meant so much to so many people down through the years, with its treasured memories of bygone generations of my ancestors, who through hardship and work, failure and success, found life, comfort, love, achievement and happiness here, gave impetus and inspiration for the courage to write this book.

Old homes that have been cared for, and lived in, for many, many years have a quality of charm and character each its own. Each generation leaves some impression of its existence there. Each has its mementos—perhaps some meaningless object, a cherished keepsake, or a happening or association of such, that no one understands, or values, except the owners. An old tree cut down or some new ones planted, an old piece of furniture refinished, an old picture rehung, a new one added, a room restored, a doorway repaired, a roof replaced or a chimney made secure—each become a bright milestone back along life's road.

Mementos of happy days, and hopes and ambitions, and even sorrows—all people express themselves unconsciously through the homes they create.

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THE FARM LOCATION

This part of New York State in which our farm is situated was the mill site tract of the vast Phelps and Gorham Purchase. The land containing the Purchase was originally occupied by the Seneca Indians, the largest tribe of the Iroquois Indians of the Six Nations. The purchase contained a little more than 2½ million acres. It was purchased from the Indians in 1779 for \$2500 and \$500 a year rent forever. All the Purchase was on the east side of the Genesee River except the mill site tract. At first the Indians did not want to sell any land west of the river, but Phelps urged them to do so, stating that it would be used as a mill site, and this would be advantageous to the Indians to have mills where they could get their corn ground and lumber sawed. Phelps said a tract about 12 miles wide and 24 miles long would be sufficient. The Indians were greatly surprised at the size of the mill site request, but finally acceded. Ontario County comprised most of the territory at that time. Our farm contains 73 acres and is bounded on the south by the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg branch of the New York Central Railroad, on the west by Kirk Road, on the north by Japes Road and on the east by a line running north and south, halfway between Kirk and Island Cottage Roads. The Homestead is located in the southeast corner of the farm.

TERRY BURNS

Terry Burns came to America from Ireland in 1821 at the age of 22. He was born in the year 1799 in Ireland, in County Fermanah, Province of Ulster, probably near the city of Enniskillen, near Lough Erin (Lake Erne). He was my great-great-grandfather on my mother's side, through marriage of his daughter, Margaret, to John M. Kirk. It was often related that he lost his hat on the way over to this country, and on arrival his possessions consisted of little more than the clothing he was wearing. He came to Greece, N.Y. in 1823 and first lived in a small log house, the logs of which he had hewn from trees that were cut when he cleared the land for the site. The site of the log house was a short distance southeast of our present house where now stands a flagpole on the curve of the hill that reaches out toward the creek. The entire section was covered with trees at that time. Terry Burns purchased the property in 1827 from the Bank of Ontario in Canandaigua, N.Y., for the sum of \$325. The deed was not recorded, however, until June 10, 1831. [The Bank of Ontario was chartered in 1813. Nathaniel Gorham, of the partnership of Phelps and Gorham, was the first president of the bank. William Kibbe was cashier, and he was succeeded in 1821 by Henry B. Gibson who signed the original deed to our farm.]

THE HOMESTEAD

In 1835, Terry Burns, with the help of others, built the house in which I live. The house has been continuously occupied by succeeding generations of his family ever since. I was born in this house and have lived here all my life. With me lives my wife, Mary (Barringer) Newcomb, my two sons, Donald and Thomas Newcomb, and my mother Clara (Kirk) Newcomb. Donald and Thomas are the sixth generation of our family to live in this house. Terry Burns built this fine old colonial-type house presumably with help and guidance from the Kirk family whose members included carpenters and joiners. It is very likely that Philip Diedrick, a carpenter who married into the Kirk family, also assisted in the work. Prior to the actual construction, it had taken about two years to cut the trees and hew by hand the many beams into the proper sizes that were required for the framework of the house. When they were properly shaped and seasoned, the main beams were assembled on the ground and raised into place by a score or more of men who came to the raising bee. The house has lost some of its original early American design through replacement of windows, some of the floors, and other remodeling. All the windows originally were the small-pane type, having twelve panes in the upper sash and eight in the lower, such as the present windows on the north side of the house, which are originals. The glass in the 8 x 10-inch panes is very thin, and when peered through, display some distortion, air bubbles, and are slightly iridescent with an amethyst hue. An outside feature, near the peak of the west end of the house is an elliptical arch containing slender

slats which radiate from the bottom at the center, outward, giving a fan-like, or sunburst appearance. All the timbers in the house are hand-hewn from trees that grew on the property at the time. The foundation beams, and main beams in the house are of oak, while the rafters and diagonal bracing are of chestnut. The lower floors are of oak and ash, while the upper floors are whitewood, from the tulip poplar. The braced beams in the framework are hand-pinned with wooden pins. Its lathes are hand-split and the nails are square, cut iron nails. Most of the beams are 10 inches square with wooden pins over a foot long holding them together. There are eight rooms in the large original main part. In 1855, an addition was built on the west end which contained five rooms and an open woodshed. A few years later an addition of two bedrooms was added to the north side of the 1855 addition. The house was finished on the outside with clapboards of whitewood. Clapboards were known to have been used by the early American Colonists and a few houses using clapboard siding were built in some sections of Monroe County as early as 1810.

THE FIREPLACE

The house has three fireplaces, one upstairs, and two downstairs. The huge main fireplace is 5½ feet high and 9 feet wide. The opening of the fireplace, where the fire is placed, is 3½ feet high and 5 feet wide. It has a brick bake oven, (commonly called a Dutch oven), a wood box below the oven, a long graceful crane and other associated implements. With the exception of replaced doors on the oven and woodbox, and new firebrick in the back, it remains exactly as it was in the days my great-great-grandparents prepared their meals and received warmth from it. This charming old fireplace is reputed to be one of the finest and best preserved fireplaces of this early type, still in its originality, existing in the area today—truly a fine example of the type of fireplace built in the early homes of the first settlers. Because of the advent of stoves with their greater efficiency and convenience, the fireplace gradually fell into disuse, and in 1876 it was closed and concealed with a section of wall panel. It remained hidden from sight for 55 years. On a winter evening in 1931 my brothers, Fred and Floyd, and myself, knowing that the fireplace existed behind the closed section, although never having seen it, fell to speculating on the prospects of fulfilling our curiosity in seeing it. Further enthused by brother Fred's energetic interest, we tore out the closed section and soon had the fireplace exposed to view. On that same night we kindled a fire in the fireplace, and it burned as brightly and efficiently as it did for my great-great-grandfather Burns when he sat at its hearth many years before. During the winters of the depression years of 1931 to 1933 we kept it burning night and day. We used it almost exclusively to heat the house, using wood from the apple orchard for fuel. This effected a great saving of coal during the depression years. Thus, once again the stately old fireplace regained the role of importance which it once held in the household, by deliverance of warmth, light and comfort.

THE WELL

In the early years, water for all uses was obtained from the clear waters of the passing brook, and at times from a spring in the woods south of the homestead. Later, sometime around 1872, a large, deep well was dug. The well is 29 feet deep and 3 feet in diameter and symmetrically lined with rock. This source of water is still being used and is sufficient unto this day. The well still preserves its reputation of never having been known to go dry. Certain information, and other clues, indicate that a group of well-diggers, who dug wells in this area at the time, may have had a hand in the work. These men were John Halford, Barney Wren, and Tom Robertson. It is certain that my grandfather John F. Kirk, great-grandfather John M. Kirk, and great-great-grandfather Terry Burns, all worked on the project, as they were all living here at the time. They used blasting powder much of the way, until they struck rock, then used a much stronger powder called "giant powder." They blasted a few feet into solid rock into which a wedge-shaped cut about 2 feet deep was made. A hole about 3 inches in diameter was bored through the last ledge of rock at the bottom, which allows water to seep up from the crevices of lower layers of rock. Following is a typical charge for digging a well, at that time, providing a crew of regular

well-diggers did the work:

First 10 feet	at	\$1.25 per foot.....	\$12.50
Next 5 feet	at	1.45 per foot.....	7.25
Next 3 feet	at	1.75 per foot.....	5.25
Next 2 feet	at	2.50 per foot.....	5.00
Next 9 feet thru rock		5.00 per foot.....	45.00
Total.....			\$75.00

THE RAIN WATER CISTERNS

The cistern on the north side of the house holds about 1425 gallons of water and was built by my grandfather Kirk with the help of his Uncle Dan Keiser, a plasterer and mason. The cistern was built during the week of May 6, 1881. Grandfather brought the large flat stones, which were used to cover the top of the cistern, from Hopper Hill. [Hopper Hill, as it was known then, was farmland owned by his father on the west of Lake Ave., south of Stone Rd., and comprised the area containing what is now the streets of Winans, Rochelle, Holcomb, Revere, Crest, Blvd. Parkway and Holcroft, south to the B. R. & P. Railroad.] These huge flat stones measure about 4 by 6 feet and are 6 inches thick. In one of these stones he cut a 2 foot square hole in the middle of the stone to allow for an opening in the cistern top. Marks in the corners of the square opening, indicate that some sort of boring device was used to start the cut. The cistern at the west end of the house holds 1200 gallons of water and was built in 1916 by my father and an Italian mason from Charlotte, who spent that winter here. These cisterns are still in constant use, and afford an ample supply of soft rain water for the family needs.

THE RAILROAD

The railroad which passes our house and farm, was originally called the Lake Ontario Shore Railway Co. From the beginning, the line ran into financial difficulties and in 1874 was taken over by the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad. That same year it was sold at public auction at Oswego, N.Y. to Samuel Sloan, president of the D. W. & L. Railroad. In 1883 it was purchased by the New York Central Railroad and is familiarly known as the "Hojack." It was completed past our farm in 1875, and was completed the full length from Oswego to Lewiston early in 1876. The first engine went past our house on July 28, 1875, as the workmen laid the ties and rails along ahead of the engine. The railroad follows the south line of our farm, but curves to the north at the southwest corner of the farm which, at that time resulted in the loss of a triangle of land from that part of the farm. The triangle measured 79 feet along the wide end and ran 557 feet to the sharp end of the triangle and contained slightly over $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land. The contractors who built the line was the firm of John Hunter & Co. of Sterling, N.Y. Up to about 1926, two passenger trains a day, carrying several cars of passengers past through—both trains making a round trip each day. At that time, these passenger trains would stop, subject to flagging, at the crossing at Kirk Road, for the convenience of any passengers who wished to get on or off there. A small shanty was erected there for the convenience of waiting passengers, and the station was called Kirk's crossing. At that time, workmen from the city, employed at a large vinegar plant, which was located at the southwest corner of this crossing, used this station and passenger service as a means of commuting to and from work. The mill produced cider, vinegar, dried apples and later, sauerkraut. It was completely destroyed by fire during the middle of the night of May 18, 1925 and was never rebuilt.

THE BRIDGE

The original railroad bridge, spanning the creek in front of our house, referred to in the neighborhood as Kirk's Bridge, was a wooden one. On the day of Feb. 20, 1885 some cars

broke through this wooden bridge, and ten cars in all were derailed, most of them rolling down the embankment. The cars were loaded with wheat and corn. Some of the grain was stored in our barn and my grandfather Kirk was assigned the task of taking charge of it until it could be taken away. The temperature was 8 degrees below zero the day the cars broke through, and remained below zero for three days following. People came by foot and in cutters from all over the neighborhood to view the wreck, and quite some excitement prevailed. Several of the workmen who came to rebuild the bridge were boarded here at our house by my grandparents until the bridge rebuilding was completed. The new bridge was also mostly of wood, but was built several feet higher than the bridge it replaced. The present bridge—one of concrete and steel—was constructed in 1912. During the 1912 construction my brother Fred, who was seven years old at the time, used to sell apples from our orchard to the bridge construction workers. He carried the apples in a tin pail and sold them for 5c per pail.

NEWCOMB ROAD

Prior to the time the railroad was built past our house in 1875, the road leading from Kirk Road to our house, which is a Greece Town road, continued east past the house and joined with the Island Cottage Road. This road is now called Newcomb Road. Before the railroad was built, it traversed nearly the same course that the railroad does now. As a result, the west portion of the road from Kirk Road to our house was relocated several yards to the north of the line that it originally traversed. Provision for this relocation of the roadway can be noted in observing the offset in the railroad's north fence line as it proceeds west of Kirk Road, which denotes the railroad's right-of-way. That is, the railroad's right-of-way is several yards farther north as it proceeds west of Kirk Road, than it is east of Kirk Road past our farm, where the road traverses. The portion of the road, from a point in front of our house leading east to the Island Cottage Road, was discontinued at that time. Besides our house, three other homes—all log houses—were located on this road at one time before 1870. One was located on the north side of the road half-way between our house and Kirk Road. It was owned by Terry Burns and at various times housed some of his cousins and hired help. At this spot is an old well, still in existence, near a small wild cherry tree which marks the location of the spot where the house once stood, long since torn down. Also near this spot stood a huge buttonwood tree that was cut down by my grandfather Kirk in 1918. The two other houses on this road were located some distance east of our house on the south side of the road where the land becomes higher and what is now the Kintz property. Early members of one of the Goodwin families lived in one of these houses. As previously stated, when the railroad came through, the part of the road from a point in front of our house, and proceeding east to Island Cottage Road, was discontinued, as the houses that were located at one time at that end of the road were no longer in existence. Also because the construction of the railroad had altered the course of the creek and the original road, some road rebuilding and additional bridges would have been necessary, if the east portion were to be maintained. Under these circumstances, discontinuance of the east end of the road was vested in an agreement between my grandfather, John Fred Kirk, my great-great-grandfather Terry Burns, the Town of Greece, and the railroad. The Town agreeing to maintain the west end of the road from Kirk Road to our house.

MEMORIAL PLANTINGS AND OTHER TREES

The two large locust trees in front of the house were planted by Terry Burns and were quite large when my grandfather Kirk was a youngster. The one at the southwest corner of the house was struck by lightning in the 1880's and the trunk was split down the middle, as it is today. During a terrible windstorm which started in the early morning of Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, a large main branch on the south side of this tree was broken off, but was held fast by an equally large branch on the north side of the tree. [The wind-

storm mentioned, was the highest ever recorded in this section up to this time. Gusts of 95 miles per hour were recorded.] A week after the big wind, myself and Jimmy Fleming, a neighbor boy, removed the broken section, and later, as a safety measure, we cut off the main north branch. This lowered the top of the tree, but it since has filled out to its former symmetry. . . . One of the largest elms in this area stands southeast of the house near the creek. The trunk measures 19 feet in circumference and the tree is more than 100 feet in height. My grandfather Kirk related to me, that his grandfather, Terry Burns, often remarked that this elm was a very large tree at the time he purchased the property in 1827. . . . The pine and spruce tree plantings at the northwest and north of the house were planted in the Spring of 1937 by myself and my brother Floyd in memory of our grandfather John F. Kirk, and our great-great-grandfather, Terry Burns. These groves contain White, Red, Austrian and Scotch Pines, White Spruce, Norway Spruce and Douglas Fir, as well as some Japanese and European Larch. Most of the trees were purchased as seedlings from the New York State Conservation Dept., for \$2.50 per thousand, and were from 6 to 8 inches in height at the time of planting. They now average 25 to 30 feet in height. The John F. Kirk Memorial planting, northwest of the homestead, contains about 250 trees, and the Terry Burns Memorial grove, north and northeast of the house, contains about 400 trees. In 1953, 900 more trees were added to the north side of the latter grove. These were White Pine seedlings from the State Conservation Dept., obtained by my son Donald through the 4-H club to which he belonged, and were planted by him and myself, as a reforestation project sponsored by the 4-H clubs. . . . Other trees which I planted about the grounds nearer the house, during the years 1930 to 1940, include White Ash, Mountain Ash, Pin Oak, Pink Flowering Dogwood, Chinese Elm, American Elm, American White Birch, White Canoe Birch, Carolina Poplar, Juniper, Red Maple, Sugar Maple, Silver Maple, Basswood, Colorado Blue Spruce and Silver, or Concolor Fir.

Died prior
to 1986.

Note: I remember the day, 20 years ago when brother Floyd and I planted the J. F. Kirk Memorial. It was a Saturday in mid-April with a warm south wind. We planted all afternoon under gray skies, on into the twilight, and as darkness approached, a misty drizzle settled in to dampen our garments and obscure our presence. We heard a strange swishing sound close over our heads, and Floyd soon determined the sound was from the wings of wild ducks. Hundreds were coming in from the south and making a landing in a grassy puddle on the edge of the west meadow near where we were kneeling at the planting.

THE BARN

The barn, which once stood to the west of our house, was a large ell-shaped structure. About 1913 the west ell was torn down. The north part of the barn remained until 1930, when part of the north roof was blown off during a high wind. My brother Floyd then started to tear this part down, along with an adjoining structure which was called the wagon house. This latter structure was built by grandfather Kirk in 1918. The beam-work of the old barn was constructed much like that of the house, having wooden-pinned beams with diagonal bracing. On the west end of this barn was a small structure called the colt shed. Other structures were a large duck coop, a pig pen, a cowshed, a privy, and a red brick smokehouse for smoking hams. The smokehouse was located a few feet west of the well. All the structures mentioned in this paragraph are no longer in existence.

RECOLLECTIONS OF KIRK ROAD

Kirk Road was so named after the Kirk families that lived on the road, that is, John M. Kirk, and two of his sons, Myron B. and John Fred Kirk. In the early years of this century it was repaired, when needed, with slag from a blast furnace at Charlotte. Slag was the dross that rose to the top of the molten metal in the furnace. Every three or four years, several carloads of slag would be shipped to Kirk's crossing where a short spur was maintained for the use of the cider mill. The cars were switched off at this

spur and a crew of men with teams of horses and dump wagons would take the slag and spread it on Kirk, Janes and Island Cottage Roads. The slag was a white, gravelly substance, and was good material for these less frequently traveled roads. There was no charge for the slag except a demurrage charge of \$5 or \$6 per car. . . . In the very early days, the twin bridges on Kirk Road that cross Round Pond Creek were of wooden logs, supported by roughly piled stones. They were frequently swept away by spring floods. In those days, bridges and roads were repaired by the families who lived on the road. A road tax was charged and the men of the families were allowed to work out their road taxes by working on a designated section of the road for a certain period each year. Later, bridges having steel frames with wooden floors were constructed. They made considerable clatter when horses and wagons, or cars crossed them. These bridges were replaced with the present ones by the W.P.A. in 1936-37. At that time the old slag road was rebuilt and repaved as it is today. . . . The several Black Walnut trees that line the west side of the road between the bridges were planted there by Herb Kirk, son of Myron Kirk, about 1891 when he was a young boy. He dug the trees from the farmyard of the old Hughie Duffy residence, the present site of the Milton Carter home on Latta Road. He carried the small trees home in a basket and planted eight along the roadside between the two bridges, (one planted near the creek washed away). He planted seven more in a field west of the barn. . . . At one time a building, equipped and used for apple drying was located on the west side of Kirk Rd., a short distance south of the Kirk family home and was owned and operated by the family. About 1917 the building was moved on rollers, drawn along by a horse-propelled winch. The gray horse operating the winch, was driven some of the time by Herb Kirk's young daughter, Erma. At times the horse became dizzy from constantly circling the winch. When this situation occurred the horse was allowed to stop until his equilibrium was restored. The building was moved across the fields on the west side of the road, and thence across the creek, and relocated near the previously mentioned cider mill and became a part of the mill property. . . . Adjacent to the Kirk family home was a large building called the fruit house. It had a large basement and was used for the winter storage of fruit and vegetables. For many years Herb Kirk conducted weekly square dances on Saturday nights in this building. Joe Goodwin sometimes did the calling and his brother Will used to play the violin and also called for the dances. Walter and Mamie Goodwin used to play the fiddle and piano at the dances. Only in the memory of those who attended and participated, can full appreciation of the zest and gaiety of these dances be recalled. The first dance was held there in 1903 and the last, about 1934. The building was torn down in 1954 by Herb's son Roscoe, and some of the lumber was used in the construction of a small barn on his property. . . . Some distance upstream on the creek, a little over half way between Kirk and Latta Roads on what was the old Hogan Farm, was once located a saw mill. It was owned and operated by an early Greece family, the Stones, probably before 1855. The site of the mill can still be traced by those familiar with the location, by certain indentations, rocks, and mounds in the earth there. . . . About the middle of the field immediately east of Kirk Road between the railroad and the creek, stood several fine American Chestnut trees—long since having gone the way of all American chestnut trees with the coming of the chestnut blight that swept the country about 1915. I watched the workmen blast out the stumps of these trees, and at that time they dug trenches and laid drainage tile to help drain the field. . . . As a youngster I recall the mail being delivered along Kirk Rd. by Mr. Leonard Billings, a middle-aged, rotund man with a large gray mustache—a person of somewhat picturesque appearance. He drove a stout horse, hitched to a small, enclosed wagon which was painted yellow. Lettered on each side of the wagon was—U.S. MAIL—R.F.D. Rural Free Delivery was started out of Charlotte in 1902. Mr. Billings was the first carrier, and delivered the mail in this section for 16 years. Previous to rural delivery, a postoffice was located at the southwest corner of the railroad crossing at Island Cottage Rd., in the former Fleming home. It was called Mt. Read Post Office and was operated at one time by the James Livigne family.

THE LLOYDS

Terry Burns married Relieva Lloyd in 1822 when he was 23 and she was 17 years of age. Her father, Dezhiah Lloyd, brought his family here from Massachusetts in 1811 and settled on land a half mile west of Charlotte. He had five children—a son, Silas and four daughters, Statira, Electy, Relieva, and Eleanor Sarah. Statira, called "Stattie," was the second wife of Terry Burns. She married him a few years after his first wife Relieva, (her sister), died. Relieva was called "Leafy." Electy married a man named Barnum and went to Niagara Falls to live. Eleanor Sarah Lloyd was familiarly known as Sally by all who knew her and was considered the most handsome young woman in the vicinity at the time. She married Dr. Amos Emerson, who came from Fort Covington, Clinton Co., N.Y., in 1830. He died of blood poisoning contracted through a scratch on his hand from a jagged brick while doing a post mortem. His death occurred in 1840 at the age of 36. His wife Sally died in 1862, age 52, and was buried near her two sisters, Relieva and Statira, first and second wives of Terry Burns, who lie buried side by side in Old Charlotte Cemetery. Their father Dezhiah also lies buried near his daughters in the same plot. Old Charlotte Cemetery is located at the head of River St., opposite the original site of Charlotte High School. The land was donated for use as a cemetery by Frederick Bushnell. Many of the areas earliest settlers are buried there. On the gravestones appear the names of Hinchey, Latta, Holden, Stone, Lloyd, Newcomb, Kirk, Petten, Emerson, Jones and many others, including the notorious Sam Patch.

FIRST WIFE OF TERRY BURNS

Terry Burns and his first wife, Relieva (Lloyd) Burns, had four children: Margaret, born 1822; John, born 1824; Sarah, born 1826 and Jeremiah, born 1830. Terry, the father being of Catholic faith, and his wife being a Protestant, caused a division in the family religion—the sons adopting the father's faith, and the daughters joining with the mother, regarding their religious affiliations. Relieva was stung fatally while attending bees which the family kept in hives among a group of trees directly east of the site of the present house. She was spinning yarn outdoors near the trees when she saw the swarm of bees on a branch of one of the trees. She climbed into the tree and was attempting to hive the swarm when she was attacked and stung by a great number of the bees. She was alone at the house at the time and when members of her family arrived later and came to her assistance, she was in critical condition and died soon after on that same day. It was an exceptionally warm day, the 5th day of Aug., 1833. She was 28 years of age at death and was buried in Old Charlotte Cemetery. The spinning wheels she was using on that tragic day are still here in the attic of our home. [Being a good source of sweetening, many of the early settlers kept bees, and it was not unusual for the womenfolk to attend them at times.]

SECOND WIFE OF TERRY BURNS

Three years after the death of his first wife, Relieva, Terry Burns married Relieva's sister, Statira Lloyd, in 1836. To this marriage was born one child, a son, whom they named David L. Burns. The child was born in May, 1837 and died Nov. 25, 1839 when he was 2½ years of age. He is buried close by his mother's grave in Old Charlotte Cemetery. After more than 30 years of marriage to Terry Burns, Statira died here at the family home, of Erysipelas on Mar. 19, 1865, age 67.

THIRD WIFE OF TERRY BURNS

The year following the death of his second wife, Terry Burns married again on May 13, 1866. His third wife was Rosanna (Beaty) Goodwin, widow of Patrick Goodwin. She was born in Ireland and came to this section in 1831. The marriage was the cause of a noticeable amount of excitement in the neighborhood at the time, he being 67 and she 62. Before her marriage to Burns, she lived in a log house on the Island Cottage Road. Her

children from her first husband, Patrick Goodwin, had reached adulthood by then. The children were Patrick, Margaret, Rosanna, James, Thomas and John. The log home in which she lived is still in existence and is occupied by her great-grandson, Vaughn Goodwin and his family. He has done extensive repair work and remodeling, so that the huge logs which comprise the walls are now concealed with modern building material, but the long beautiful beams of the living room ceiling are exposed to view and radiate their beauty in the living room of this pioneer structure. After ten years of marriage to Terry Burns, Rosanna, more commonly known as Rosy, died of what was termed at the time, congestion of the brain, being sick about three days. She died on Tuesday night, Dec. 13, 1876, here at the family home, age 72, and was buried in Mother of Sorrows Cemetery.

DEATH OF TERRY BURNS

Terry Burns, an affable and friendly Irishman, rough and energetic in the ways of the early settlers—not adverse to a bit of imbibery, on occasions when conviviality was in order, nor at such times when he deemed its use more beneficial than detrimental to his well-being, never-the-less was a hard working, kind, generous and religious man, and left all his children a good farm before he died. He read the Bible every day, and during the good-weather months it was his custom each day to sit under the locust tree in the dooryard and read a chapter from the Bible. He came to this country with little or nothing in money or possessions, yet during his lifetime accumulated enough to build a fine house and large barns with the necessary furniture and equipment to fill them, and buy considerable acres of land, along with the necessary stock and tools with which to operate his acreage. He earned his first money in America by working on the Erie Canal, then under construction. From this money, he saved enough to purchase his first land in America, which is still a part of our farm. During his later years he gave it all away to his heirs, until at the end his only possessions were a buggy and harness, and what furnishings he had in the three rooms he then occupied in our home. These furnishings, upon appraisal after his death, amounted to about \$37. Notes and rents owed to him were about \$295 and he had \$78 in the bank, making a total of \$460. Expenses of his funeral, the gravestone, the doctor and other expenses incurred during his last illness was \$384, thus resulting in about \$75 to his credit after death. He gave the farm he owned on the west side of Kirk Road to his son, Jerry Burns. He deeded our homestead and farm here on the east side of Kirk Road to his daughter, Margaret (Burns) Kirk, (my great-grandmother), on April 5, 1865, a few days before the close of the Civil War. He helped his daughter, Sarah (Burns) Butts, furnish her home when she married. He was generous in loaning money and contributed liberally to Mother of Sorrows Church. He died here at the family home on Aug. 22, 1877, age 78, and lies buried in Mother of Sorrows Cemetery which prior to 1860 was called Mt. Read Cemetery. It was the second cemetery in Greece. He was a member of Mother of Sorrows Church from the time it was built until his death—a period of over 45 years. On the bottom of his tombstone is written the 4th verse of the 23rd Psalm, "*Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they will comfort me.*" Very close on each side of his grave are the graves of his two young sons, John and Jeremiah. John was born in 1824, and died unmarried here at the family home on Nov. 24, 1848, age 24.

MARRIAGE OF JEREMIAH BURNS

Jeremiah (hereafter in this account, called Jerry), the younger of the two sons of Terry Burns, married Ellen Rehil (sometimes spelled Rehill), on Nov. 30, 1847. She was born in 1833 and was the daughter of Patrick and Bridget Rehil (or Rehill), who came to this country from Ireland in 1825. They lived at the site of the old Marshall home on Janes Road. Jerry and Ellen eloped when he was 17 and she was 15 years of age. They had three children: Maria, born in 1849; John C., born in 1851 and Agnes, born in 1853.

DEATH OF JERRY BURNS

Jerry Burns died a tragic death as a result of a hunting accident. He had gone duck hunting north of our farm, in the marshes of Buck Pond, north of the Janes Road. He was pulling the shotgun, a muzzle-loader, from the bottom of the boat, when the gun discharged, striking him in the side of the chest under his right arm, killing him almost instantly. His companion on the hunt (the identity of whom is now lost), placed him on higher ground a few feet from the boat and ran to the Beaty home on Janes Road for help. Someone was sent to summon Father Biggio. [Father Biggio was the first permanent priest of Mother of Sorrows Church.] Mary Beaty was first to reach his side before the priest arrived. She reached him just before he died and wet his lips with water, using her slipper with which to dip the water from a clear pool in the marsh. The priest came on horseback, but on nearing the scene, abandoned the horse because of fences, and ran the rest of the way on foot, jumping the fences, but Jerry was dead before he reached him. They later carried him to a horse and wagon that had been driven to a nearby point, and he was taken home.

JERRY BURN'S HOUSE RAISING

Just the day before Jerry's accidental death, a raising bee had been held for the purpose of raising the beams for his own house in which he and his wife and children were to move into when finished. This house still stands on the west side of Kirk Road and is now numbered 563. The farm property adjoining the house had been previously owned by Terry Burns who gave it to his son Jerry Burns, when Jerry married. Terry Burns purchased the property in 1833 from Charles Little for \$300. Little had bought the property from Stephen Rodgers in 1817 for \$211. Rodgers had purchased the property from Morgan Deschaise in 1805 for \$100. It is now owned and operated by Harold Burns, a great-great-grandson of Terry Burns. Jerry Burns was born in 1830 and the date on which he was killed in the hunting accident was Sunday, Sept. 19, 1852, when he was 22 years of age. His death was a great shock to the neighborhood, particularly, of course, his wife Ellen who was awaiting the birth of her third child, Agnes. Later, Ellen remarried. Her second husband was James Preston and she had six more children: Ambrose, born 1860; Joseph, born 1863; James, born 1864; Mary, born 1865; William, born 1870 and Alice, born 1873.

MARIA BURNS

Jerry Burn's first child, Maria, married John Martin on Nov. 18, 1869. She died May 26, 1882, age 33. They had seven children: John, who never married; Charlotte (Lottie), who married Michael Purcell, and had no children; Margaret (Maggie), who never married; Mary, who married Robert Frame, and had two children, Fred and Clifford; Frank who never married; Effie, who married Charles Featherly and they had four children, John, Joseph, Mary and Dorothy. Last child was Joseph Martin who married Harriet Lewis, daughter of Delos Lewis, and they had no children.

JOHN C. BURNS

John C. Burns, called "Connie" Burns, was the only son of Jerry Burns. He was born in 1851 and died May 1, 1880, age 29. He married Margaret Beaty on Jan. 13, 1870. She was born in 1849 and died June 6, 1935, age 86. Her father was James R. Beaty, familiarly known as "Donnelly," which was a nickname, and her mother was Margaret McManus who was her father James' first wife. She died, and Margaret Martin became his second wife. To this second marriage was born Joseph, John, James, Frank, Will, Fred and Estella Beaty. John C. Burns and Margaret (Beaty) Burns had five children: Austin, born 1870; Florence, born 1872 and died age 14; Margaret, born 1875 and died age 4; Emma, born 1877 and died age 18; and Stella born 1879.

AUSTIN BURNS

Austin Burns, son of John C. and Margaret (Beaty) Burns was born in 1870 and died in Feb. of 1904, age 34. He married Emma Whelehan. She was the daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Goodwin) Whelehan. Patrick Whelehan, born in 1833, was the son of Thomas and Mary Whelehan who both were born in Ireland in 1812 and came to this country in 1837. Patrick was their oldest child. Their other children were: William, born 1837; Maria, born 1839; Thomas, born 1842; Ellen, born 1845 and Teresa, born 1852. Margaret (Goodwin) Whelehan, born in 1834 was the daughter of Patrick and Rosanna (Beaty) Goodwin. Rosanna, (more familiarly known as Rosy), came here from Ireland in 1831, and after the death of her first husband, Patrick Goodwin, she became the third wife of Terry Burns. Patrick Whelehan and Margaret Goodwin were married Feb. 2, 1857. Their children were Thomas, William, John, Margaret, Emma and Mary. Thomas, William, Margaret and Mary never married. John married Matilda Quinn and they had two sons, Donald and Howard. She was a sister of Rev. John Quinn who was priest at Mother of Sorrows Church for many years. Emma Whelehan, a handsome young woman, was considered throughout the community as the "belle of Greece" at the time of her marriage to Austin Burns. To them were born two children: Harold, born June 28, 1899, and Ethel born July 4, 1901, neither of whom married. Harold Burns is prominent as a successful and progressive farmer, dairyman and orchardist in this area, operating many acres of his own, as well as those of neighboring farms. He lives in the family homestead on Island Cottage Road with his mother Emma, and sister Ethel.

STELLA (BURNS) WHELEHAN

Stella Burns, only surviving daughter of John C. and Margaret (Beaty) Burns was born in 1879. She married Maxwell Whelehan on Nov. 25, 1903. He was born in 1883 and was the son of William and Mary (Gallery) Whelehan. They had three children: Gerald, born in 1905; Benjamin, born in 1910; and Maxwell Jr., born in 1913. Gerald married Florence Toal, daughter of Thomas and Carrie (Frisbee) Toal, and they had four children: Bernard, Ann, Joyce and Mary. Benjamin Whelehan married Frances Toal, daughter of Mark and Mary (Hadlock) Toal and they had one child, Barbara. Maxwell Jr. married Lois Graham, daughter of John and Lois (Dougherty) Graham and they had six children: Dorothy, Lois, James, Kathleen, Maureen and Timothy.

Note: The excellent memory and recollections of Stella (Burns) Whelehan were of great assistance in the preparation of information on the Burns branch of the family.

AGNES BURNS

Agnes Burns, youngest daughter of Jerry Burns never married, and died about 1897 after moving to Rochester to live.

* * *

Margaret Burns, daughter of Terry and Relieva (Lloyd) Burns married John M. Kirk
(They were my maternal great-grandparents)

* * *

ORIGIN OF THE KIRK FAMILY

MOSES KIRK

The Kirk family, written about in this book, originated in America with the arrival of Moses Kirk and his wife, Mary (Story) Kirk, from Scotland sometime around 1760. It is logical inference that they first came to Essex Co., New Jersey, where there was a community of Scotch settlers, among whom were friends who had preceded them to America. A group of these settlers removed to the Warrior Run section of Pennsylvania in 1769, where the Moses Kirk family also settled a year or so later. The Kirks bought a tract called Partnership on the west branch of Warrior Run containing 320 acres, the original deed being granted to them on Apr. 3, 1769. It was written on sheepskin and signed by William Penn. The farm lies in the present Township of Delaware, in the northern tip of Northumberland Co., Pa. Nearly all of the early settlers of this section were of Scotch descent and Presbyterian in their church affiliations. The Kirk farm, which was owned and operated by the Kirk family for over 100 years, is about a quarter of a mile from historic Warrior Run Church and the site of Fort Freeland, both located about four miles northeast of Watsonstown, Pa. This entire region, where the west branch of the Susquehanna River flows through a gap of the Alleghenies, was known to the Indians as "Oztinachson," meaning Indian paradise. It is one of Pennsylvania's most beautiful regions. Moses and Mary (Story) Kirk had ten children which included several daughters and a lesser number of sons, all born shortly before the American Revolution. Among the sons, only two grew to maturity, William, born in 1768 and James, born in 1774. Some of the daughters (not mentioned in the Moses Kirk family tree at the beginning of this book, but whose identity is herewith established), were: Isabella, who married Aaron Himrod; Sarah, who married Joseph Reynolds; Ann, who married David McKnight; Mary, (marital status not ascertained), and Catherine, who married Andrew Himrod.

SIEGE AND CAPTURE OF FORT FREELAND

The site of Fort Freeland is located near Warrior Run Church and is marked by a granite boulder. In 1778, during the American Revolution, a stockade was raised here around a mill built five years earlier by Jacob Freeland. During the winter of 1778-79 the Kirk family, along with twelve other families of the early settlers, took refuge in the Fort and spent that winter there. On a morning of dense fog, June 29, 1779 the Fort was attacked and taken by the British and their Indian Allies. The British were under the command of Capt. MacDonald and the Indians were led by Chief Hiokoto, a veteran brave of the Seneca Tribe. Two hundred Indians and one hundred British regulars surrounded and captured the Fort after a battle that killed and wounded 108 settlers. As soon as the attack began, Mary Kirk and Phoebe Vincent commenced to run bullets for the rifles of the men, and continued as long as they had a spoon or pewter dish to melt. Conditions of the surrender were, that if the Fort was given up with no further resistance, all effective men and boys able to bear arms would be taken prisoner and marched to Fort Niagara. All old men, women, girls and children would be allowed to leave the Fort without further danger or molestation. Mary Kirk, then the widow of Moses Kirk, and her ten children were held captive in the Fort along with the other occupants. Upon hearing the conditions of the surrender, she put dresses on her small boys and passed them out as girls, thus obtaining their freedom. Records show that one boy, Benjamin Vincent, only 11 years old, was taken prisoner. He was in captivity for 5 years, but eventually returned with others. Many prisoners never returned. Mrs. Kirk and her family reached Northumberland safely that night—a distance of 18 miles. They finally found a haven of safety at Fort Augusta, and after the war returned to the old home. Under her guidance they reconstructed the buildings, cleared the land and improved it.

Note: Another account of the Fort Freeland episode, related in a book in the Priestly-Forsythe Memorial Library, Northumberland, Pa., differs from the above, in that it states: "All other reports to the contrary, Mary Kirk dressed only one son, and only one, in feminine attire, that being her oldest son, William, who was old enough to participate in the protection of the Fort, which he did, and therefore subject to being taken prisoner by the British."

WARRIOR RUN CHURCH

Several generations of the earlier Kirks are buried in the beautiful old cemetery of Warrior Run Church—gallant participants of the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Civil War—they rest in the quiet shadows there. The church, named for the numerous Indians who then occupied the region, is a red brick building, supported in front by large white columns. A log church was first built on the site in 1789. It was erected by early settlers, including the Kirk family, for a Scotch Presbyterian congregation that was organized in 1767, and the present church was erected in 1835. Formerly much restoration and upkeep was done by the Warrior Run Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, aided by descendants and friends, Mrs. Frank E. Kirk of Watson-town being particularly energetic in the project. The church and cemetery are now owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is maintained by the State because of its historical significance. The church is located at a country crossroads a quarter mile from the original Kirk farm northeast of Watsonstown, Pa., in an area of long rolling farmlands on vast slopes, and is surrounded by pines and old oaks that wave over the graves that contain the cherished remains of my ancestors. The original Moses and Mary Kirk are buried in Warrior Run Church Cemetery. Moses' grave is in an unmarked and unknown location in the Cemetery. Mary Kirk lived to be 82 years old, and died in November, of 1804.

FAMILY OF JAMES KIRK

James Kirk, younger son of Moses and Mary (Story) Kirk, was born in 1774 and died Feb. 6, 1858, age 84. He was a veteran of the War of 1812. Otherwise he spent all his years in the Warrior Run section of Pennsylvania, engaged in the operation of the family farm there. He married Mary Foster, who was born in 1782 and died Aug. 1, 1842, age 60. They are buried together in Warrior Run Cemetery under a somewhat unusual box-like grave marker, composed of what appears to be white sandstone in the form of an oblong box, with a large flat slab as a cover. The inscription being on the slab, facing the sky. Seven of their ten children lie buried in the same plot beside them. Their children were: Margaret, born 1801 and died Jan. 3, 1833, age 32; Mary, born 1805 and died Nov. 23, 1849, age 44; William, born about 1808. He married Mary E. Hughes and died in 1879, age 71; Moses, born 1810 and died June 22, 1829, age 19; Ester, born 1812 and died Oct. 7, 1844, age 32; Sarah R., born 1815. She married David Wilson and died Dec. 3, 1880, age 65; Silas, born 1818 and died July 14, 1877, age 59. He was a veteran of the Civil War; Thomas, born Mar. 13, 1821 and died Dec. 19, 1891, age 70. He also was a veteran of the Civil War. Last child was Catherine, born in Aug. 1825. She married John M. Kirk, a cousin, on Oct. 28, 1873. She was his second wife. (More will be written about them later.) She died on Dec. 18, 1894, age 69. All of the James Kirk family are buried in Warrior Run Church Cemetery with the exception of William and Catherine, who are buried in Watsonstown Cemetery.

WILLIAM KIRK

William Kirk was the oldest son of Moses and Mary Kirk. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1768 and died in Greece, N.Y., on June 8, 1842, age 74. He was the boy who escaped the fate of becoming a prisoner of the British at Fort Freeland by his mother's act of dressing him in feminine attire, the details of which have already been related. He married Jane Knox who was born in Lewisburg, Pa. in 1783, and died in Greece, N.Y. on Oct. 25, 1860, age 77. He was a veteran of the War of 1812. Both he and his wife are buried in Old Charlotte Cemetery. He sold his farm near Warrior Run in Pennsylvania in 1829, and that year came to this section and purchased a farm on the shores of Lake Ontario. They had eleven children and came all the way here, a distance of over 200 miles on horseback, hauling their belongings in carts drawn by oxen. Some semblance of a road had been laid out from Pennsylvania to the Genesee Country prior to this, about 1825, but to considerable extent it was through uncharted wilderness and thick woods, and travelers were fortunate to cover 10 or 12 miles a day. The 125 acres of land they purchased on the lake shore became known as Kirk's Bluff. Later it was called Rigney's Bluff, and is now the Shoremont section along Edgemere Drive in the Town of Greece, Monroe Co., N.Y. The present streets of Woodland, Ingomar and Kirkwood Road were once a part of the farm, also included was property now occupied by Russell Station of the Roch. Gas and Electric Corp. The original Kirk home was located at the north end of Kirkwood Road where it joins Edgemere Drive. Kirkwood Road was named after the Kirk family. The eleven children of William and Jane (Knox) Kirk were:

FAMILY OF WILLIAM KIRK

- George K. Born about 1800. He married Eunice Pembroke and they went to St. Joseph Co., Michigan around 1850, bought land and settled there.
- Moses Born 1803 and died Mar. 27, 1860, age 58. He is buried near the graves of his parents in Old Charlotte Cemetery. I have no record of his ever being married.
- James Born in 1814. He married Eliza McMannus. She was born in 1826 and came here from Rennselear Co., N.Y. To them were born ten children: Jane who married Stephen DuColon. She was born in 1843 and died in 1907, age 64. She is buried in Falls Cemetery. Their next child was William J., born in 1844; Mary, born in 1847; Margaret born in 1851; Sarah, born in 1853; George, born in 1855; Rosy, born in 1858; Thomas, born in 1861 and Eliza A., born in 1865. At one time the family lived on the Flynn Road.
- John M. Born Oct. 14, 1820. [He was my great-grandfather and more will be written about him later.]
- Nancy Born Aug. 20, 1822 and died Oct. 15, 1879, age 57. She is buried in Old Charlotte Cemetery. She married John Marshall who came to this section from Vermont. Their children were: William, born 1846; Dorothea C., born 1847; Jane, born 1850; Sarah J., born 1851; George, born 1852; and Henry Pierce, born 1854. Henry Pierce Marshall married Nettie Kirk, daughter of William F. Kirk. After his first wife, Nancy (Kirk) Marshall died, John Marshall married Ellen Kimberley. They both worked for my grandparents here at our farm for a time around 1875-80.
- William F. Born in 1826. He was a carpenter and joiner and built many houses in this section around 1855 to 1880. His wife was Harriet Lewis, who was born in 1826 and came here from Otsego, N.Y. They had three children: Henry, born 1853; Delos, who was always known as "Joe" Kirk, born 1855 and Nettie, born 1859. She died Apr. 12, 1936, age 77. Henry married Margaret Marshall and they had twin daughters, Lois and Lulu. He later moved to Washington D.C. where he was engaged in shipbuilding. Delos, or "Joe" Kirk married Mattie Small and they moved to Wilson, N.Y. They had no children and he died about 1931. Nettie Kirk, married Henry Pierce Marshall and they had three children: Homer, Emmett and Loren. Homer married Bertha _____. Emmett married Mary Cooper, daughter of James and Nell Cooper, and they had two children, Joan and Marie. He died Mar. 3, 1950. Loren never married. He works for the N. Y. C. Railroad. His father Pierce was born in 1854 and died Nov. 19, 1924, age 70.
- Jane. She married William Doty and went to Elkhart Co., Indiana to live.
- Sarah D. Born 1830 and died Feb. 11, 1878, age 48. She married Daniel Keiser who was born in 1819 in Bucks Co., Pa. and died Jan. 4, 1885, age 66. He was a mason and plasterer and also done carpenter work. They had two children, Emily and Jane. Emily was a nurse. Neither ever married.
- Mary She married Philip Diedrick. It is thought that he came here from Chili, N.Y. He was a carpenter and joiner, and it was from him that William F. Kirk learned his trade.
- Elizabeth Born 1827. She married William Burnett and went to Rochester to live. It was said that she burned to death in a home fire.
- Ann She married Aaron Brooks. I believe they lived in Lockport, N.Y. for a short time before going to St. Joseph Co., Mich. to live.

VALUATION OF HOMES IN 1855

Regarding the valuations of homes in this section of Greece, as recorded in the 1855 census, the average frame house was valued from \$300 to \$500, and log homes were valued from \$25 to \$75. A great many of the homes in this vicinity were of logs in 1855, and some were continued in use for many years after.

JOHN M. KIRK'S FARM PRODUCTION IN 1855

According to the 1855 census, John M. Kirk's dwelling on Kirk's Bluff was valued at \$800 and the land was valued at \$4600. At that time he had 2 horses, 2 milk cows, 5 heifers, 2 working oxen, 50 sheep and 9 pigs. The value of his livestock was \$521. That year he raised 800 bu. of wheat, 35 bu. of rye, 300 bu. of Indian corn, 200 bu. of oats, 40 bu. of Irish potatoes, 300 bu. of barley, 30 tons of hay, 150 lbs. of wool and 500 lbs. of butter.

TERRY BURN'S FARM PRODUCTION IN 1855

In the same year 1855, Terry Burn's dwelling, (our home), was valued at \$1200 and the land was valued at \$7500. He had 7 horses, 2 milk cows, 3 heifers, 2 working oxen, 31 sheep, 7 pigs and 3 hives of bees. The value of his live stock was \$842. That year he raised 800 bu. of wheat, 300 bu. of Indian corn, 150 bu. of oats, 200 bu. of barley, 20 tons of hay, 300 bu. of Irish potatoes, 20 bu. of beans, 12 bu. of clover seed, 40 lbs. of butter, 100 lbs. of cheese and 70 lbs. of wool.

JOHN M. KIRK

John M. Kirk, son of William and Jane (Knox) Kirk, married Margaret Burns, daughter of Terry Burns, on June 8, 1843, when he was 23 and she was 20. She went with him to live in the Kirk family home on Kirk's Bluff, now Shoremont. To this marriage was born five children: Myron Boughton, born in 1844; William Terry, born in 1847; John Fred, born in 1849; Frank Eugene, born in 1859 and Etta Louise, born in 1864.

JOHN M. KIRK LEASES HIS FARM AT BLUFF

In 1855 John M. Kirk leased his farm on Kirk's Bluff to William Grayson for a term of three years. He later sold the farm to one John Hall. After leaving the lakeshore the family lived for a brief period in or near the Moss Mosely home in Charlotte. [Mosely was a flour merchant of the firm of Mosely and Motley.] John M. Kirk then came with his family to live in the home of his wife's father, Terry Burns, (our present homestead), to help with the care of her aging father and his farm. About this time an additional section of the house containing seven rooms was built on the west end of the original structure to accommodate the Kirk family. They lived in the new section and also the upstairs rooms of the entire house. Terry Burns and his wife Statira, occupied the downstairs rooms of the older section. A few weeks after the death of his second wife, Statira, he deeded the farm to his daughter Margaret (Burns) Kirk on April 5, 1865. Margaret died on May 3, 1872, age 50, five years before her father. She was buried in Old Charlotte Cemetery. Her remains were removed, and reburied in Riverside Cemetery, in the Myron Kirk family plot on May 19, 1904. A stone over her grave there, is inscribed with the single word, "Grandmother."

MYRON B. KIRK

Myron Boughton Kirk, first son of John M. and Margaret (Burns) Kirk, was born in 1844 and died Nov. 12, 1913, age 69. He married Nancy Small who came from Niagara Co., N.Y. She was born in 1843 and died Jan. 30, 1905, age 62. They lived in their farm home on the west side of Kirk Road, just south of Round Pond Creek. The family first occupied a log house on this site, slightly west of the present house. The present house was built in 1870, and was lived in, and remained in the possession of the Kirk family until 1936. Myron and Nancy (Small) Kirk had four children. Their first child, Irving, was born Apr. 23, 1866 and died Aug. 10, 1941, age 75. He married Winifred Sperry, adopted daughter of Alfred and Ida Sperry. She was born in 1873 and died Apr. 25, 1952, age 79. They lived all their married life on a farm on the east side of North Greece Road, north of Latta Road. They had one child, Orla. Myron and Nancy (Small) Kirk's next child was May, born in 1868 and died unmarried in 1899, age 31. Their next child was Floyd, born in 1871 and died in 1872, age 1. Their last child was Herbert M., born on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, 1872. He lived in the family home on Kirk Road and operated the farm there, until his retirement in 1936 when he sold the farm. His last years were spent at the home of his son, Roscoe Kirk, on the same road, not far from the home of his birth. He died Aug. 9, 1957, age 83, and was buried in the Kirk family plot in Riverside Cemetery. He was one of the first persons in the neighborhood to own a "horseless carriage." His preference in cars were Ford, Model T's, and this particular make was invariably his choice in the selection of a motor car for his use. Herbert married Emma Diedrich, daughter of Fred and Mary Diedrich. Before her marriage, she lived with, and was brought up by her Uncle John and Aunt Wilhelmina Diedrich. Emma was born in 1879 and died Dec. 15, 1943, age 64.

To Herbert M., and Emma (Diedrich) Kirk were born three children:

- Erma Born Mar. 18, 1903. She married Dr. George Bailey, a Rochester dentist, at a young age, and they had five children, Ruth, who died in infancy; George, Thomas, Graydon and Melba. After the termination of her marriage to Dr. Bailey, Erma married David Madry and went to Jackson, Miss. to live.
- Everett Born Oct. 27, 1907. He married Elizabeth Curtain on July 31, 1927. She was born Jan. 31, 1910 and came from Brooklyn, N.Y., the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Young) Curtain. Everett and Elizabeth (Curtain) Kirk had three children. The first child, a son, Everett Jr., died in infancy. The other two children were Emma and Herbert. Emma married Jack Carmel. They have one son, John. Everett lives in a house on the Long Pond Road that was built—and lived in—by his great-grandfather Kirk's brother, William F. Kirk.
- Roscoe Born Dec. 29, 1911. He married Frances Hauser, daughter of John and Faye (Piatt) Hauser, in 1938. She died around Eastertime, April, 1946. They had no children. He remarried on Mar. 19, 1949, to Ruby Kreck, daughter of Louis and Bertha (Sturm) Kreck. They have one child, a daughter, Roberta, born July 15, 1951.

FAMILY OF WILLIAM T. KIRK

William Terry Kirk, second son of John M. and Margaret (Burns) Kirk, was born in 1846 and died in 1916, age 70. He married Emma Kintz, who was born in 1851 and died in 1915, age 64. She was the daughter of Anthony and Lucretia (Peterson) Kintz. After their marriage they lived for many years on a farm on the north side of the Burritt Road, Town of Parma (second house east of the creek, east of Parma-Hilton Road). Later the family moved to the village of Hilton, N.Y.

To William T. and Emma (Kintz) Kirk were born five children:

- Bertha Born 1872 and died 1954, age 82. She married Eugene E. Collamer, son of John and Alice (Smith) Collamer. He was born in 1870 and died in 1945, age 75. They had two children, Stuart and John William. Stuart married Inez Wilcox and

they had one child, Carolyn. John William married Elizabeth Harris and they had three children, Catherine, Jean and William. John and Stuart Collamer are prominent apple growers in Parma. Their father pioneered in the research and development of many phases of the apple industry. The Collamer's well-groomed, and highly productive orchards are famous throughout the state.

Flora Married Homer E. Smith, son of Albert G. and Ida (Van Zile) Smith. They had no children. They owned and operated a farm on Bennett Road, Town of Parma, for many years.

Carrie Married James Davis of Charlotte, N.Y. They had two children, Margaret and Marion. Margaret died at age 17. Marion did not marry. James Davis died, and Carrie married Herbert Bagley of Hilton, N.Y. He also died, and there were no children of the second marriage.

Daisy Married James H. Daily of Hilton, N.Y., the son of Thomas and Sarah Jane (Hamilton) Daily. They had no children.

John Married Alta Wright, daughter of Charles and Dora (Blossom) Wright. They have a farm on the Church Road, near Hilton, N.Y. Their daughter, Dorothy married Floyd Covington and they have three children, Bonnie, Jon and Rodger. Bonnie married Donald Radtke.

* * *

John Fred Kirk, third son of John M. and Margaret (Burns) Kirk married Rachel Veeder.
(They were my maternal grandparents)

* * *

THE VEEDER FAMILY

The Veeders were of Dutch descent and were members of an early American whaling family on the Island of Nantucket, off the coast of Massachusetts, which was the world center of whaling in the early days of America. Capt. Peter P. Veeder was my grandmother Rachel (Veeder) Kirk's grandfather. He was a Nantucket sea captain, who, after a number of years at sea, left Nantucket and eventually came to North Greece in 1837 where he became engaged in farming. He was born Jan. 23, 1779 and died Dec. 1, 1863, age 84. He married Rachael Allen, daughter of John and Amy (Swain) Allen, both of old Nantucket whaling families. Her first husband was Zebulon Morselander, who died shortly after their marriage. She then married Capt. Peter P. Veeder in old Nantucket on Aug. 23, 1808. He was 29 and she was 30 when they married. She was born Nov. 9, 1778 and died June 22, 1856, age 78. Both are buried in Parma Union Cemetery on the Parma Center Road, south of Hilton, N.Y. Among ships he commanded was the *Peru*, of which he was whaling master in the years 1818 to 1821. To them were born five children, Charles A., Oct. 7, 1809; David A., Apr. 17, 1812; Annie Ann, Apr. 20, 1814; Mary Ann, Dec. 10, 1815; and Ann Maria, Dec. 20, 1818.

CAPT. CHARLES A. VEEDER

Capt. Charles A. Veeder, first son of Peter P. Veeder, spent more than 45 years sailing the world's oceans, and 35 of the years as a whaling master. Each expedition lasted about 4 years, so he probably spent not more than 10 years of the 45 at home. He married Susan C. Austin, daughter of George and Susan (Creazey) Austin in Nantucket on Nov. 28, 1833. She was born in Nantucket on Aug. 8, 1816. He was 23 and she was 16 when they married. To them were born four children, George A., Sept. 10, 1834; Charles Edward, Aug. 12, 1838; Mary F., Feb. 28, 1848 and Marianna, Apr. 11, 1860.

At 3460 Latta Rd. →
(in survey)

WHALING VOYAGES OF CAPT. CHARLES A. VEEDER

Following is a record of some of the voyages made under the command of Capt. Charles A. Veeder:

The ship *Christopher Mitchell*, sailed for the Pacific Ocean Apr. 28, 1838. Returned to Nantucket Apr. 5, 1841 with 2714 bbls. of sperm oil and 52 bbls. of whale oil.

The *Joseph Starbuck*, a new ship, well-built and expensively fitted, 417 tons, sailed for the Pacific Ocean in Apr. 1842. The ship started out the harbor in clement enough weather, but when several miles off Nantucket Bar, a storm arose and the ship was swept onto the bar. Another vessel attempted a rescue of the *Joseph Starbuck's* crew, and for hours it was feared that all hands of the ill-fated ship would be lost, but after repeated efforts, all were saved. The *Joseph Starbuck* was left a battered wreck and was a complete loss.

Next command was the *Empire*, a new ship, 405 tons, sailed for the Pacific Ocean May 18, 1843. Returned Nov. 27, 1847 with 2076 bbls. of sperm oil and 335 bbls. of whale oil.

The *Nauticon*, a new ship of 372 tons, left Nantucket for the Pacific Ocean Sept. 12, 1848. Returned Mar. 27, 1853 with 1100 bbls. of sperm oil and 1400 bbls. of whale oil, having sold 200 bbls. at ports on the voyage. Capt. Veeder's wife and children accompanied him on this trip. The *Nauticon* was sold to the New Bedford fleet.

The *Ocean Rover*, a new ship of 417 tons, sailed for the Pacific Ocean, July 11, 1855. Returned Oct. 26, 1858 with 1721 bbls. of sperm oil. This ship was sold to the New York fleet.

One of Capt. Veeder's last commands was the *William Gifford* of the New Bedford fleet, 241 tons. Sailed for the Pacific Ocean in 1868 and returned in 1871.

Note: Sperm oil comes from the head of the sperm whale, and on the whaling expeditions was kept separate from the common oil of the whale, because of it's superior quality in candle-making. It was designated sperm oil, and other oil from the whale was simply designated as whale oil.

FAMILY OF CAPT. CHARLES A. VEEDER

On the voyage of the *Nauticon*, Capt. Veeder took his wife and children along on the 4½ year trip. On this voyage, their 2 year old daughter, Mary F., was taken sick. She died in Tahiti, Society Islands on Mar. 6, 1850. Ten years later, on Dec. 14, 1858, at the age of 20, their son Charles Edward was swept overboard and lost at sea from the deck of the *Midnight* of New York, a famous clipper ship in the tea trade with China. Their daughter, Marianna, married Charles Vinal of New Bedford and died not long before this was written. The oldest son, Capt. George A. Veeder was Captain of the *Mt. Vernon*. He married Hattie Folger, daughter of Alfred Folger of Nantucket. The Island of Cuttyhunk, near Martha's Vineyard was at one time a stronghold of the Veeder family. The previously mentioned family names of Allen, Morselander, Swain and Folger take their place among the Starbucks and the Coffins—famous names in the history of Nantucket.

PACIFIC PORTS VISITED BY CAPT. VEEDER

Ports of the Pacific, from hemisphere to hemisphere, are noted in the log books of Capt. Veeder's whaling voyages. Some of these ship logs are in the possession of the library of the Nantucket Whaling Museum. They record some of Capt. Veeder's 10 or more trips around the Horn (Cape Horn), the waters of which have long been considered the world's most turbulent spot, and note his visitations of such ports and places as the Galapagos, Tonga, Formosa, New Guinea, the Hebrides, the Marianas, Juan Fernandez, Tahiti, Saipan, Fiji Islands, Samoa, the and many others. He was a true sea hunter, on many oceans, through many years.

THE PACIFIC CLUB

Capt. Charles A. Veeder was one of the original seven men who founded the famous Pacific Club of Nantucket, known as the Captain's Room. It was founded in 1854 and

its members originally consisted of whaling captains of the Pacific fleet—that is, captains who sailed the Pacific, rather than the Atlantic Ocean in quest of whales. They purchased a brick building, built in 1772, which was owned by, and was the counting house (bank) of William Rotch, a powerful whaling and shipping merchant. It was said of William Rotch that no finer man ever graced the Island. A sympathizer of the down-trodden and oppressed, he owned the three ships—*Dartmouth*, *Eleanor* and *Beaver*—which participated in the Boston Tea Party in 1773. These ships held the taxed tea that was dumped overboard in Boston Harbor in protest of British taxation, and thus wrote a colorful chapter in American history. After the Revolutionary War in 1783, it was a Rotch ship that flew the first American flag to be unfurled in any British port. The Pacific Club building still stands, and houses the still existant Pacific Club, as it has since its founding. The founding was projected on the occasion of a trip made by the seven men, on invitation to New York Harbor, for the purpose of inspecting a new and magnificent steamship, the *Great Eastern*. [It was not only a magnificent ship, but also a magnificent failure. It was plagued by one mishap after another throughout her career.] Capt. Veeder appears in a picture of this group of seven founders, both at the Pacific Club and also at the Whaling Museum. The picture was taken in 1860. The house in which Capt. Veeder lived is still standing, and in good condition at 91 Orange Street, Nantucket. In the old days of whaling, most of the whaling masters lived on Orange Street, and this street is lined with former homes of those whaling captains.

RACHEL E. VEEDER

A few years after my grandmother Kirk's mother died in 1860, Capt. Charles A. Veeder, her uncle, came here from Nantucket, and upon his return, he took my grandmother, who was about 13 at the time, back with him to spend a while there with his family. She stayed a couple of years, and attended school while there. Her years at Nantucket were extremely happy and pleasant ones for her. She was entertained by her uncle Charles' exciting tales and experiences, in the world's most strange and exotic ports and seas. Many times, when I was a small boy, she related to me the happy memories of her teen-age years on the Island of Nantucket. She brought back with her a whalebone cane which Capt. Charles made for her father as a gift. The cane is still in our possession.

Note: Making these canes and other trinkets was a form of work called "scrimshaw," a name given to this fancy work done on whale's teeth, and bone from the right whale's jaw. Scrimshaw work was carved out with jackknives, small saws and files, by the whalers during idle moments on their long voyages.

My grandmother Kirk was extremely fond of our home here, and could not bear the thought of ever living elsewhere. She worked hard to make a good home, and her perseverance and loyalty in this cause did much to make it so. She often expressed a desire and hope, that the home and farm would be taken over by some of the grandchildren, and be properly preserved, and taken care of. Were she alive today, I am sure she would be pleased with the progress and accomplishments achieved. Among things she wrote, I came across what I assume is a quote from some verse: "Where I love is home, home that my feet may leave, but never my heart."

CAPT. PETER P. VEEDER, 3460 LATTARd.

When Capt. Peter P. Veeder came to the U.S. mainland from Nantucket, he settled for a short time in Schoharie Co., N.Y. before coming to Greece, N.Y., about 1837. Records show he purchased 53½ acres of land in Greece on Dec. 27, 1837, from the trustees of the last will and testament of Oliver S. Phelps. All of his family accompanied him here, with the exception of his oldest son, Capt. Charles A. Veeder, who remained in Nantucket. His daughter Amie Ann married Peter Johnson, and they had three children, Thomas, Peter and Mary. Mary married James Burke and they went to Michigan to live. Among their children were two daughters, Cora and Amy. Mary Ann Veeder married a man by the name of Wibert. They had a son Clifford, and resided

in Buffalo, N.Y. No record was found regarding Capt. Peter P. Veeder's daughter, Ann Maria. His younger son, David A. Veeder, married Susan Van Slyke about 1835. They were my grandmother Kirk's parents.

THE VAN SLYKE FAMILY

The Van Slyke family came from Pennsylvania to Schoharie Co., N.Y., where they resided a short time before coming to Rochester about 1840. They were of Dutch descent. In 1853, Addie W. Van Slyke, (brother of Susan (Van Slyke) Veeder), was appointed the first chief-of-police of Rochester, N.Y. [There was a police force in existence in Rochester previous to this time, of course, but the various divisions were headed by what were called at the time, police-constables. However, there was no chief-over-all until Addie W. Van Slyke was designated as chief-of-police.] Addie W. Van Slyke died Nov. 6, 1885. He had two children, Harmon and Jennie, neither of whom married.

FAMILY OF DAVID A. VEEDER

David A. Veeder and Susan Van Slyke were married about 1835. Susan was born in Schoharie Co., N.Y., in 1819. She died in 1860, age 41. They had three children: Allen, born, 1837; David, born 1840; and Rachel, born in July, 1847. The family lived on the north side of Latta Road, west of Flynn Road, near North Greece, in a house still standing, and is now numbered 3460 Latta Road.

ALLEN AND DAVID VEEDER

Allen and David Veeder, my grandmother Kirk's two brothers, served with the Union forces in the Civil War. David's Civil War sword still hangs here in a room of our home. The two boys operated a cooperage shop at North Greece. Allen enlisted for service in the War during Aug., 1863, and was with the 21st N.Y. Cavalry. David continued with the shop for a few months, then also enlisted, and joined the boys in blue. David was taken prisoner by the Confederate forces near Salisbury, N.C., but escaped and rejoined his company. Later he was wounded and hospitalized in Annapolis, Md. Allen went through the war safely. Shortly after his return home from the war, Allen Veeder left Greece, and with his wife Frances, whom he had married prior to the war, went to, or near Lasalle, Illinois to live. They had an adopted daughter, Emily. David never married. He went to Kansas and bought a farm there. Later he came back to Greece and stayed here at our home for about two years; then returned to Kansas and sold his farm there. He then went to Illinois and lived with his brother Allen. The brothers died in Illinois and both were buried there.

OLD STONE CHURCH

The old stone church that stood on the north side of Latta Road, a few hundred yards west of Long Pond Road, was used during the Civil War to hold meetings for the purpose of recruiting men to join for service with the Army. Northern Army officials sent forceful speakers to these meetings. Enlistments were also advertised for, in the newspapers. The Veeder family attended this church and also the various social events held there. The church was built in 1844 and was the forerunner of the Parma-Greece Christian Church, now at Manitou and Latta Roads. The building was later used as a cider mill and dry house, and was torn down about 1950.

SECOND MARRIAGE OF DAVID A. VEEDER

David A. Veeder's first wife, Susan (Van Slyke) Veeder, died in 1860. He remarried about 1867, shortly after his daughter Rachel Veeder, (daughter from his first wife), had returned home from her stay in Nantucket. His second wife was a widow, whose maiden name was Catherine Flynn. Her first husband's name was Scott. She was born in 1828 and died in 1892, age 64, and is buried in Mother of Sorrows Cemetery. She had one child from Scott, a daughter, named Marion. She had one child from David A. Veeder, a daughter, Jennie. Jennie was born in 1869 and died Dec. 13, 1941, age 72. Marion Scott

married Mitt Rowley, and they had no children. Jennie married William Terry and they had seven children: George, Kathleen, Frank, David, Marion, Lillian and Gertrude. Veeder's second wife, Catherine, was of Catholic faith, and in his later years Veeder was converted to the faith of the Catholic Church by Father St. Maurice, who was priest of Mother of Sorrows Church for 39 years, from 1856 to 1885.

JOHN FRED KIRK

John Fred Kirk (my grandfather), who married Rachel Veeder, was always called by his middle name, Fred, and went by that name so as not to be confused with his father, John Myron Kirk. John Fred Kirk left home around the first of October in 1869, at age 20 and went to Pennsylvania where he spent a little more than a year working in the oil fields there. It was at a place called Shamburg (the name of which has since been changed), and was near Pleasantville, in Venango Co., eight miles from Titusville, where the world's first oil well, Drake's Well, was drilled in 1859. One of his first jobs was laying pipe at 75c per rod. He also drove a team drawing coal, and sometimes in the evening tended a store near where he boarded. He later obtained a regular job, running and maintaining oil-pumping engines for \$35 a month including board and washing. The company he worked for, was called National Oil Wells. John Fred Kirk held a certificate to teach in the common schools of Monroe Co. and taught for a time around 1867-68. He was collector of taxes for the Town of Greece in 1880.

MARRIAGE OF JOHN F. KIRK AND RACHEL VEEDER

John F. Kirk and Rachel Veeder wrote many letters to each other during the time he was in Pennsylvania, and it is through these still existant letters that much of the information regarding this period was obtained. He came home to visit Rachel and his family during the week of July 4, 1870, and at that time they became engaged. He returned to Pennsylvania and resumed his duties there, but subsequent letters indicate that he was lonesome for home, and "Rachie," as he affectionately called her, and she too, was lonesome for him. So on Dec. 21, 1870, he returned home to stay, and they were married at her home on the 19th day of January, in the year 1871, when he was 21 and she was 23 years of age. William Patterson and Mary Brown were their attendants at the marriage.

KIRK FAMILY MOVES IN WITH TERRY BURNS

John M. Kirk and his family moved in with his father-in-law, Terry Burns, shortly after 1855. From then, until the time of my grandparents marriage in 1871, and the death of grandfather Kirk's mother in 1872, John M. Kirk and Terry Burns had worked the farm here together. At the time of my grandparent's marriage the homestead was occupied by Terry Burns and his third wife, Rosy. They lived in the downstairs of the larger part of the house. John Fred Kirk, his father, John M., his mother, Margaret, his brother Frank and his sister Etta lived in the smaller west end of the house, and also occupied the upstairs rooms of the entire house.

REMARRIAGE OF JOHN M. KIRK

John Fred Kirk's mother, Margaret (Burns) Kirk, died on the 3rd day of May in 1872, age 50. Four years later, on Feb. 13, 1876, Terry Burn's wife Rosy died, and the next year on Aug. 22, 1877, Terry Burns died. The year following the death of his wife Margaret, John M. Kirk, with his two unmarried children, Frank and Etta, returned to the section of his birth in Pennsylvania from whence he came. It was at this time that my grandparents came into possession of the homestead and farm here. John M. Kirk was a fine, well-appearing man, mannerly and dignified. He was scholarly and business-like, and spent as much time as he could spare from his farm duties in the purchase and resale of properties. He gave all his sons a good farm before he left Greece, N.Y. After his return to Pennsylvania he remarried there on Oct. 28, 1873. His second wife was Catherine Kirk, a cousin. She was the daughter of James Kirk, who was the brother of William Kirk, John M. Kirk's father. John M. Kirk died Mar. 30, 1890, age 75, and his wife, Catherine died Dec. 11, 1894, age 69. Both are buried in Watsontown Cemetery.

KIRK HOME IN PENNSYLVANIA

This mansion-like home, a landmark in Watsontown, is the home of Mrs. Frank E. Kirk, whose late husband was the youngest son of John M. and Margaret (Burns) Kirk. The house was built about 1865 and later came into the possession of the Kirk family. The large red brick home, but a short distance from the broad sweep of the Susquehanna River, contains many spacious and airy rooms. It is well-kept and beautifully furnished throughout, with unusually handsome old pieces of furniture, many of which have been handed down through generations of the Kirk family. The home commands great charm, character and dignity. John M. Kirk's wife, Catherine, became totally blind during her last years as a result of cataracts which were unsuccessfully operated on at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia. Because of her blindness her husband had a long open porch constructed, along one end and side of the house. This enabled her grandchildren, Bell and Kathryn Burr to take her for daily walks in the out-of-doors in the safety of the porch.

FRANK E. KIRK

Frank Eugene Kirk, youngest son of John M., and Margaret (Burns) Kirk, married Mary L. Frymire on Nov 11, 1896, two years after her graduation from Bloomsburg State Teachers College. She was born at Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania Oct. 19, 1873. Her father was George Porter Frymire, born in Hughsville, Pa., and her mother was Anna Mahala (Wolfe) Frymire, born in Mifflinville, Pa. Mary (Frymire) Kirk taught school for a time after her marriage and again later, after her husband died. She is an enthusiastic and active member of the Warrior Run Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She lives in, and maintains the old Kirk family home in Watsontown, Pa. Frank E. Kirk, her husband, was a Director and President of the Watsontown National Bank. He had cashiered in the bank for some time previous to his becoming President of the bank. At one time he operated a plumbing concern and had financial interests in other Watsontown businesses. He took care of the properties of Kirk relatives, inherited some of the property, and made wise investments. He was born Dec. 14, 1858 and died Aug. 16, 1927, age 69. Frank E. and Mary (Frymire) Kirk had one child, Margaret B. Kirk, born Apr. 23, 1900.

DR. MARGARET B. KIRK

Dr. Margaret B. Kirk, only child of Frank E. and Mary (Frymire) Kirk, had extensive education in preparation for a teaching and medical career. She was graduated from Watsontown High School and attended Dickinson Seminary for music, now Lycoming College at Williamsport, Pa. She attended Rogers College at Lowell, Mass. for a short while, then attended the Kirk School at Byrn Mawr, Pa. She later was graduated from Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass., and did graduate work on a grant from Harvard University at Woods Hole, Mass. She taught at a private school, the Ely School, in Greenwich, Conn. The school burned and she then taught in the high school at Katonah, N.Y. She later taught at Mary Institute, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. and also attended the University there for special work. Teaching, however, was not what she fully desired as a life career. Her most cherished ambition was to become a doctor of medicine. She went to New York, to Physicians and Surgeons Medical School, but left after a year or so and went to Philadelphia where she graduated from Women's Medical College there. She served her internship at Williamsport Hospital and remained there on the staff. She took the master's course in gynecology and allied fields at the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. Kirk specializes in pelvic surgery, has offices in Williamsport, Pa., and is associated with Williamsport Hospital and Divine Providence Hospital in Williamsport.

ETTA L. KIRK

Etta Louise Kirk, the only daughter of John M. and Margaret (Burns) Kirk was born here at the family home, July 26, 1864. After her mother's death she was brought up by her uncle, William T. Kirk, until she was nine years old. She left here with her father when he returned to Pennsylvania from Greece, N.Y., about 1873. There she married

Theodore Burr on Jan. 31, 1883. He was a newspaper man and was one of the founders of the Watson town Record and Star newspaper. His grandfather was builder of the covered bridges that once spanned the Susquehanna River in that section. They had four children: Belle, Jennie, Kathryn and John. Belle was born Sept. 22, 1883 and married Percy Hastings. They had no children and both are now dead. Jennie was born Mar. 19, 1885 and died at 1½ years of age. Kathryn was born May 17, 1887 and married Frank G. Watson. He was born in Watson town and the town was named for his ancestors who had laid out the town in 1794. They came to America the same time the Kirk family came. Frank G. and Kathryn (Burr) Watson had two children: Mary Louise, born Dec. 11, 1919, and Richard Burr Watson, born July 1, 1928. He is unmarried and lives in Harrisburg, Pa. at the present time. Mary Louise married Albert Sheldon, born Sept. 15, 1919 at West Union, West Virginia. They have three children: Donald, born Aug. 19, 1950; Barbara, born June 27, 1952; and Linda, born Sept. 11, 1954. Etta (Kirk) Burr's last child was John, born May 15, 1889. She died at the birth of this child, on that same day, age 24. The child died shortly after, and both are buried in Watson town Cemetery.

THE BUTTS FAMILY

Sarah Burns, the third child of Terry Burns, married Daniel Butts, son of Christian and Elizabeth (Michaels) Butts. Christian Butts was born in Pennsylvania in 1790 and died in Greece, N.Y., in 1888, age 98. He was in the War of 1812. They had two children, Daniel and Simon. Simon was supervisor of the Town of Greece in 1870-71. Daniel was born in 1820 and died in 1909, age 89. His wife Sarah (Burns) Butts was born in 1826 and died Feb. 8, 1878, age 52. In 1853 they built the brick house that still stands at the corner of Kuhn and Flynn Roads. Her father, Terry Burns, furnished the double parlors in the house, as a gift. They had four children: Louesa, Mary, Melvin and Margaret. Louesa married Dr. Milton Carpenter and they had three children: May, Frank and Clara. May married William Glass. Frank became a Doctor of Medicine and never married. Clara married Dr. Robert Knight. Mary Butts married Joseph Wilder and they had four children: Sargeant, who married Cora Ducolon; Daniel, who married Margaret Kress; Bert, who married Mabel Weatherwill; and Nell who married Edward Kress. Melvin Butts married Ophelia Snell, and they had one daughter who died at age 21. Margaret Butts married John Tennyson Lewis.

FAMILY OF JOHN T. AND MARGARET (BUTTS) LEWIS

John Tennyson Lewis, who married Margaret (Butts) Lewis, was the son of Delos Lewis and Anne (Tennyson) Lewis. His grandfather was Dr. Moses Lewis. The father of Anne (Tennyson) Lewis was John Tennyson, and her mother was Sarah Collison, both of whom came to America in a sailing ship from Hull, Yorkshire, England in 1817. To John T., and Margaret (Butts) Lewis were born nine children:

Anne	She married a Frisbee and had four children: Effie, Lewis, Ethel and Leah.
Daniel	He died at age 4.
H. Winifred	He married Lillian Bigler, and had three children: Harley, Richard and John.
John	He died at 7 months of age.
Pearl	She married Harry Lowden. She died age 39, and left one daughter.
Nellie	She married Albert W. Post. His mother was Margaret (Putnam) Post. She was a descendant of Gen. Israel Putnam, one of the American Revolution's most colorful generals. Albert Post saw service in the Dakota Badlands, fighting Indians with the U.S. Army for 3 years around 1890. Albert and Nellie (Lewis) Post had three children. Their first child, M. Evalyn—an indefatigable worker for any worthy cause, be it church, grange, 4-H or charity—married Walter Quinn and they had three

children: Marjorie, Dorothy and David. Next child of Albert and Nellie (Lewis) Post was Peter Donald Putnam Post (in his youth, a professional boxer known as "Rocky Scott"). He married Kathryn Shippy and they had three children: Donald, Betty and Jerry. Their last child was Richard Post. He married Leah Justice, and they had two children, Richard Jr. and Gregory. Richard Sr. was graduated from Michigan State College in 1932. He has a doctor's degree in Entomology and has been teaching in colleges throughout the U.S.

Charles He died when 1½ years of age.

Marguerite She married Homer Worbois, a graduate of Syracuse University with an M.E. degree. They resided in Michigan for a number of years. They had no children. Marguerite died and Worbois married her sister Fern, whose first husband was Dr. George Fisher.

Fern She was a graduate of Syracuse University. She married Dr. George Fisher who was a prominent organist. He played at Lake Avenue Baptist Church for many years, and also at Central Presbyterian Church in Buffalo. He also was George Eastman's private organist. He died, and later Fern married Homer Worbois. Fern and Dr. Fisher had one child, Carol Cecelia. She married Fred Brevik and had one daughter, Bonnie. Fred was killed in World War II. Her second husband was Fred Lawrence and they had three children, Barbara, Christine and Fred.

FAMILY OF JOHN F. KIRK

After the marriage of my grandparents, John Fred and Rachel (Veeder) Kirk, and the return of his father, John M. Kirk to Pennsylvania, they came into possession of the farm here, and began their marriage, devoted to the task of working the farm and raising a family. They had five children, Nellie Margaret, David Allen, Edith Maria, Florence Edith and Clara Elizabeth. Nellie Margaret was born Nov. 28, 1871 and died July 29, 1872, age 8 months. David Allen was born June 28, 1873 and died Oct. 4, 1873, age 3 months. Many infants died at that time, of what was called Cholera Infantum. The deaths of their first two babies was a source of much heartache and sorrow for my grandparents. Both children lie buried in old Charlotte Cemetery under a small double-joined headstone. The inscription on the stone reads: "*Sweet little ones on earth so fair, have gone to heaven to blossom there.*" I suppose in those bygone days this little cemetery was a neat, quiet and peaceful spot, but times have changed, and the rude hand of civilization has greatly defaced the last mementos reared to perpetuate their memory. Their next child was Edith Maria, born Sept. 6, 1875, and died May 23, 1898. She was 22 years old and unmarried. Their next child was Florence Edith, born Nov. 28, 1877. She was a school teacher most of her adult life, and taught for many years at Greece, School District No. 14. (More will be written about her later.) Rachel (Veeder) Kirk died here at the family home on Mar. 16, 1924, age 76. John Fred Kirk died Mar. 9, 1927, two days before his 79th birthday. Both are buried in Riverside Cemetery.

GREECE DISTRICT No. 14 SCHOOL

The plot of ground on which this school building stands was donated to the district, to be used for the purpose of a school building, by my great-great-grandfather, Terry Burns, who then owned the land. It was deeded by him to the district on June 8, 1852. The plot measures 5 x 8 rods—approximately ¼ of an acre. Some of the very early teachers of this school were, Lotta Janes, Jennie Martin, Mary McShea, Mary Burns, Miss Grinnen, Bridget Beaty, Ellen McCarthy, Miss Johnson, Lillian Burke and Mary

Ann Mellor. Some of the later teachers were Miss Bridget Carroll, Miss Monroe, Miss Getman and Mrs. Archer. My grandfather, my mother, myself, and all my brothers and sisters, as well as my son Donald, received our early schooling at this school, which accounts for the grammar school education of four generations of my family. On a day in June, 1945, the teacher, my Aunt Florence (Kirk) Archer Bygrave, rang the school bell to summon the pupils to the last lessons ever to be said there, and that afternoon the schoolyard flag came down for the last time, thus ending nearly one hundred years of dispensing education to the children of this community. The next year the school joined with No. 5 School at Latta Road and Mt. Read Blvd., and after being vacant until the spring of 1947, it was sold at public auction, and was converted into a private dwelling.

SCHOOL DAYS AT DIST. No. 14 SCHOOL

Some of my schoolmates at this one-room school were Fred and Jimmy Beaty; Austin, Margarite, Evelyn and Madeline Beaty; Erma, Everett and Roscoe Kirk; Helen, Henry and Daniel Bauman; Frank McGregor, Lornie Marshall and Vera Weitz. Also my brothers, Fred and Floyd, and my sister Evelyn. At that time the schoolroom contained several rows of large double desks. Two pupils sat together in the double seats. I usually sat with my brother Floyd and sometimes with Austin Beaty. At one time Floyd, Austin and myself, all shared the same seat. . . . Some of the games we played were "Fox and Geese" in the snow, "Duck-on-a-Rock," "Tickly Bender" on thin ice in the creek, tag, beanball and baseball. . . . Everett Kirk was the school cut-up, and one time brought eight sticks of dynamite to the school in a market basket. He had found the dynamite at the site of some blasting project in the neighborhood. He hid two of the sticks under the bridge nearby, and brought the rest into the school and concealed them in his desk. Later he terrorized the teacher and most of the pupils by juggling a few of the dynamite sticks from hand to hand, frequently dropping one on the floor in the process. Fortunately, however, none exploded and he was finally induced to remove the dynamite from the premises. . . . The school contained an organ which was pumped by foot. Several times a week, Erma Kirk played the organ and we all sang. One afternoon an incident of great disturbance occurred, the occasion of which, was prompted by the boy pupils in pursuit of a mouse which had taken refuge inside the organ. In the ensuing scuffle the organ was overturned and completely demolished. . . . On very cold winter days all the pupils would move in closer to the part of the room nearest the stove to keep warm. All eight grades were taught by the one teacher, and each class moved to the front seats, at the front row of desks, when it was time for their lessons to be recited. Hats and coats were hung on hooks and nails on the walls about the room. Each morning, two of the boy pupils were sent down the road to fetch a pail of drinking water from one of the neighbor's wells. The pail of water was set on a bench in the schoolroom, and a tin cup was provided from which to drink.

FLORENCE E. KIRK

Florence Edith Kirk, the fourth child of John Fred and Rachel (Veeder) Kirk, married Edward C. Archer, son of Lewis and Della (Hazen) Archer. Florence Kirk and Edward Archer were married here at the family home by the Rev. Frederick Lindsay, on June 2, 1905. Edward Archer was born on Aug. 19, 1880 and died Dec. 5, 1918, age 38, during the influenza epidemic of that year. They owned and operated an ice cream parlor in Hilton, N.Y. for a few years, then purchased a farm on the Burritt Rd., Parma. They operated the farm until Edward's death in 1918. He is buried in Parma Union Cemetery. To them were born three children: Edith, Raymond and Edna. Edith died a few weeks after birth. Raymond was born May 7, 1910. He was physically handicapped from birth,

and several years after his father's death, was placed in Rome State School, a school for crippled people. He entered there about 1929, and still lives there. Edna was born on June 29, 1919. She married Bernard Fox on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, 1938. They had no children. Much of her time is spent in unselfish devotion to her mother and brother in providing care, comfort and kindness. Her great interest in travel has taken her on several vacation trips to Europe, the Bahamas and many parts of America. She has a keen appreciation of the arts and finds objects of antiquity a source of interest. Florence (Kirk) Archer remarried in Nov., 1927. Her second husband was Allie Bygrave. He died a year or two after their marriage. Before marriage, and after the death of her first husband she taught school for many years in rural districts of Monroe Co., N.Y. As a child she attended Greece, Dist. No. 14 School and after further schooling in Rochester, she started her teaching career. She later attended normal school at both Cortland, N.Y. and Geneseo, N.Y. She taught school at District No. 14, Greece, for many years and was the last teacher to teach there before it was closed in 1945. She now lives in retirement in the Baptist Home at Fairport, N.Y.

Note: During my Aunt Florence's teaching years, rural school salaries were usually quite meager in comparison with the present day standards of centralized districts, and in view of the hardship and responsibilities involved, one wonders why she found it worth the while to teach. No one will ever know how many little coats she buttoned, how many rubbers she helped put on, how many zippers she zipped, how many little shoes she tied, or how many handkerchiefs she held to little noses, aside from her teaching duties. She probably shoveled 50 tons of coal and swept out an equal amount of dirt—enough to earn her salary aside from the teaching. I suppose it made it all worth while when some handsome young man, age six, may have told her she was the best, or the prettiest teacher in the world, and where else could she get the most beautiful apples on earth?

THE ARCHER FAMILY

The Archer family, into which my Aunt Florence (Kirk) Archer married, was of English descent, and first settled in Massachusetts, early in the 17th century. At one time, Tarrytown, N.Y., was a stronghold of the Archer family, where many generations of the Archers lived, the menfolk being ferrymen on the Hudson River. David Archer served with the British in the French and Indian War, (the name usually given to the Seven Years War in America between the French and English). He was with the forces of Gen. Wolfe when the British scaled the cliffs of the St. Lawrence River to defeat the French forces under Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham, and capture the city of Quebec. He later served in the American Revolution under Gen. John Sullivan, and thus, like many others of Sullivan's forces gained a knowledge of the Genesee Country, where later members of the Archer family came and settled. David Archer's son, Bezaliel Archer, served both in the American Revolution and the War of 1812, and finally settled in Henrietta, N.Y. Bezaliel Archer's son, Gideon, migrated to Orleans Co., N.Y. early in the 1840's and in 1846 came to Hilton, N.Y. His choice of selecting Hilton as a homesite was greatly influenced by the presence there of a Free Baptist Church, to whose tenets he strictly adhered. He purchased a 150 acre farm at the crest of the hill, on the main road south of Hilton, N.Y. Gideon Archer's son Lewis, continued the operation of the farm there until his death in 1914, when he was struck by a train on the New York Central Railroad tracks which ran past the north boundary of his farm. Lewis Archer's son, Edward C. Archer, married Florence Edith Kirk, as related in the preceding article.

* * *

Clara E. Kirk, last child of John F. and Rachel (Veeder) Kirk, married James H. Newcomb

* * *

ORIGIN OF THE NEWCOMB FAMILY IN AMERICA

CAPT. ANDREW NEWCOMB

The seat of the Newcomb family in England was at Saltfleet, Lincolnshire, where the family has been traced back to the 12th century. The Newcomb family, one of the oldest families in America, originated in this country with Capt. Andrew Newcomb who came to America from England in the early 1600's. He was my great great great great great great great grandfather. He was born in England in 1618 and died in Boston, Mass., in Nov., 1686, age 68. The name of his first wife and date of their marriage is unknown. Capt. Andrew Newcomb was in command of various sailing ships, and most of his life was engaged in the shipping trade along the Atlantic Coast of Colonial America. He also made trips to and from England. To Capt. Andrew Newcomb and his first wife were born two children: Andrew and Susannah. Andrew was born about 1640. Susannah was born about 1642 and died in Oct., 1681, age about 40. Susannah's first husband was Philip Blague of Boston. Her second husband's name was Pritchett (or Pritchard). Capt. Andrew Newcomb's second wife was Grace Ricks, widow of William Ricks. She was born about 1623 and married Capt. Andrew Newcomb in 1663 at Boston. To Capt. Newcomb and his second wife, Grace Ricks Newcomb, was born one child, a daughter, also named Grace. She married James Butler of Boston, and after his death she married James Rankin of the Isles of Shoals, located off the coast of Maine.

LIEUT. ANDREW NEWCOMB

Lieut. Andrew Newcomb, the son of Capt. Andrew Newcomb and his first wife, was born about 1640 and died sometime between Aug., 1706 and Oct., 1708, age about 67, at Edgartown on the Island of Martha's Vineyard, Dukes Co., Massachusetts. He was my great great great great great great great grandfather, and was engaged in the fishing industry along the New England Coast. He married Sarah_____, in 1661. She died in 1674 at Kittery, York Co., Maine. His second wife was Anna Bayes whom he married in 1676 at Edgartown. She was born at Edgartown in 1658, the daughter of Capt. and Anna (Baker) Bayes. She died there in the late Summer of 1731, age 73. Lieut. Andrew Newcomb lived at Kittery and on various islands of the Isles of Shoals, situated in the ocean a few miles from Kittery, off the coast of Maine. He finally settled in Edgartown where he was appointed Lieutenant of the Militia, Apr. 13, 1691, hence his title.

To Lieut. Andrew Newcomb and his first wife Sarah, were born seven children:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Simeon | Born 1662. No record of death. The name of his wife is unknown, but records show he was married and they had seven children. They resided at Truro, Cape Cod, Mass. |
| Andrew | Born 1664 and died by accident at Edgartown in June, 1687, age 23. He was unmarried. |
| Simon | Born 1666 at Kittery. He was my great great great great great grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward. |
| Thomas | Born 1668 at Kittery. No death record. He married Elizabeth Cook, daughter of Josiah and Deborah (Hopkins) Cook of Eastham, Mass. |
| Sarah | Born 1670. No death record. Her first husband was Capt. Joshua Conant, son of Joshua and Seeth (Balch) Conant of Salein, Mass. Her second husband was William Eldredge, son of Robert and Elizabeth (Nickerson) Eldredge, of Truro, Cape Cod, Mass. |
| Mary (or Mercy) | Born 1672. No death record. She married Thomas Lumbert of Barnstable, Cape Cod, Mass., son of Jedediah Lumbert. |
| Peter | Born 1674 and died prior to Mar. 31, 1723, age about 49. He married Mercy Smith, daughter of Shubael and Annie Smith of Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard. |

To Lieut. Andrew Newcomb and his second wife, Anna (Baker) Bayes were born eight children:

- Anna Born 1677 and died Apr., 1723, age 46. She married Lieut. Matthew Mayhew of Edgartown. He was a descendant of the Mayhew family, which was among the first group of 12 families who settled on the Island of Nantucket.
- Elizabeth Born 1681 and died shortly after 1743, age about 62. She married Capt. John Atkins of Eastham, Mass., son of Henry and Bethiah (Linnell) Atkins.
- Joseph Capt. Joseph Newcomb was born 1683 and died Jan. 17, 1733, age 50. He married Jane Butler, daughter of John and Priscilla (Norton) Butler. He settled in Fairfield, N.J.
- Emlen Born 1685 and died Aug., 1768, age 83. She married Samuel Atkins of Eastham, Mass. He was a brother of Capt. John Atkins who was married to her (or Emeline) sister Elizabeth.
- Tabitha Born 1688 and died Oct., 1731, age 43. She married Peter Ray of Edgartown.
- Hannah Born 1694 and died 1755, age 61. She married Thomas Dumary of Boston.
- Zerviah Born 1698 and died Sept., 1789, age 91. She married Josiah Bearse of Barnstable, Cape Cod, son of Joseph and Martha (Taylor) Bearse.
- Mary Born 1700 and died Sept. 19, 1884, age 84. She married Jonathan Pease of Edgartown.

SIMON NEWCOMB

Simon Newcomb, the son of Lieut. Andrew Newcomb and his first wife Sarah, was born in 1666 at Kittery, Maine and died at Lebanon, Connecticut, Jan. 20, 1745, age 79. He married Deborah ———, at Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, about 1687. She was born in 1664 and died in Lebanon, Conn., June 17, 1756, age 92. They were married for 58 years. The first years of Simon Newcomb's life were spent at Kittery, also at Hog Island, (sometimes called Appledore), the most picturesque island of the "Shoals." When he was eight years old he removed with his father to Edgartown, and in due time married. There, upon a large farm—the results of purchases and grants—he lived for many years, his house in full view of the blue Atlantic. In the Autumn of 1713 he removed with his family to Lebanon, New London Co., Conn., where he lived the rest of his life. His first purchase of land in Lebanon was a 160 acre farm on the south side of the Windham Road, near Phelps hill, 1¼ miles northeast of Lebanon, and about ¾ of a mile beyond the old cemetery, butting on the road going to Windham. The farm and homestead on Windham Road was left by will to Simon Newcomb's son, Simon. He owned other lands near Lebanon, and gave each of his sons a farm before he died. The graves of Simon Newcomb and his wife, as well as those of all other Newcombs buried in the old cemetery at Lebanon, are but a few feet from the tomb of the Trumbull family.

To Simon and Deborah Newcomb were born nine children:

- John Deacon John Newcomb was born in 1688 and died Feb. 23, 1765, age 77. He married Alice Lombard, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Eddy) Lombard of Eastham, Mass. He later settled in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.
- Thomas Born 1691 and died 1761, age 70. His first wife was Eunice Manning, daughter of Dennis and Catherine (Innes) Manning of Nantucket. His second wife was Judith Woodward, daughter of Benjamin and Deborah Woodward of Lebanon. He removed to Salisbury, Conn., then to Little Nine Partners, Pleasant Valley, Dutchess Co., N.Y., and is buried in Washington Hollow Churchyard.
- Hezekiah Born 1693. He was my great great great great grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward.

- Obadiah Born 1695 and died May 4, 1761, age 66. Capt. Obadiah Newcomb was engaged in military service, hence the title Captain. His first wife's name was Abigail ———. His second wife was Mary Post, a widow. He settled in Hebron, now Andover, Conn.
- Deborah Born 1696. No death record. She married Capt. Timothy Hatch of Tolland, Conn., son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Eddy) Hatch.
- Sarah Born 1698. No death record. She was the second wife of Capt. Ebenezer Nye, of Sandwich, Mass. He was the son of Caleb and Elizabeth (Wood) Nye.
- Benjamin Born 1700. No death record. He married Hannah Clark and settled in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.
- Elizabeth Born 1701 and died Jan. 13, 1727, age 26. She married Ebenezer Wright, son of Abel and Rebecca Wright of Lebanon, and settled in Marshfield, Conn.
- Simon Born 1705 and died 1770, age 65. His first wife was Jerusha Lathrop, daughter of Thomas and Mehitabel (Sarson) Lathrop of Edgartown. His second wife was Jane (Lathrop) Worth, sister of his first wife, and widow of Nathaniel Worth. Simon Newcomb removed to Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

HEZEKIAH NEWCOMB

Hezekiah Newcomb, the son of Simon and Deborah Newcomb, was born in 1693 at Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, Mass., and died at Lebanon, Conn., Aug. 15, 1772, age 79. He married Jerusha Bradford on Nov. 14, 1716 at Lebanon. She was born at Norwich, Conn., Nov. 26, 1692 and died Nov. 5, 1739, age 47. She was baptized May 28, 1693 by Rev. Gurdon Saltonstall. She was the daughter of Thomas Bradford and Anne (Smith) Bradford, of Norwich, Conn. Anne (Smith) Bradford, mother of Jerusha (Bradford) Newcomb, was the daughter of Nehemiah Smith and his wife Anne, who was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Bourn, early settlers at Marshfield, Mass. Jerusha (Bradford) Newcomb, the first wife of Hezekiah Newcomb, was the daughter of Thomas Bradford, and the granddaughter of Major William Bradford. She was also the great-granddaughter of Gov. William Bradford who came to America in the *Mayflower* in 1620 and was Governor of the Plymouth Colony. THEREFORE, ALL THE DESCENDANTS OF HEZEKIAH NEWCOMB AND HIS WIFE JERUSHA (BRADFORD) NEWCOMB ARE ALSO DESCENDANTS OF GOV. WILLIAM BRADFORD OF THE PLYMOUTH COLONY: Hezekiah and Jerusha (Bradford) Newcomb were my great great great great great-grandparents. Immediately after marriage they settled in Lebanon where they lived the rest of their lives. Hezekiah Newcomb made at least 12 purchases of land there, including 80 acres adjoining those of Jonathan Trumbull, Colonial Governor of Connecticut. He also owned 230 acres at Falldown, Mass. As a youth he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner at New London, Conn., at which place he joined the church and was baptized Dec. 25, 1715. He was of great moral worth and was held in high esteem by his neighbors, children and grandchildren. After the death of his first wife, Jerusha, by whom he had ten children, he remarried. His second wife was Hannah ———. To this second marriage no children were born. She outlived him, and afterwards resided with her step-son, Peter Newcomb. Hezekiah Newcomb was buried in the old cemetery at Lebanon near his first wife, Jerusha, a few feet from the tomb of the Trumbull family.

Note: Jonathan Trumbull was a great American patriot during the American Revolution. He was Colonial Governor of Connecticut—and the only Colonial Governor in full accord with the American patriots—the only one who was not asked, or forced to resign. He stood on such intimate terms with George Washington that the expression of "Brother Jonathan" is said to have arisen from Washington's confidence and trust in him. His son, John Trumbull, was a famous American painter, a graduate of Harvard and served in the Revolutionary War. Four of his great historical paintings hang in the Rotunda at the Capitol in Washington. He also painted portraits of Washington, Adams and Jefferson.

Following are the ten children of Hezekiah and Jersusha (Bradford) Newcomb:

- Silas Born Sept. 2, 1717. He was my great great great great-grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward.
- Peter Born Nov. 28, 1718 and died Sept. 26, 1779, age 61. He married Hannah English of Bristol, Rhode Island, daughter of Richard and Mary (Hinksman) English. He lived for a time in Falltown, Mass. Later returned to Lebanon and settled at Columbia, Conn., near Lebanon.
- Anne Born Mar. 4, 1720. No death record. She married a man by the name of Smith.
- Hezekiah Born Dec. 27, 1722. He died at a young age.
- Thomas Born Sept. 3, 1724 and died Aug. 26, 1753, age 29. He married Ann Hibbard of Windham. Her second husband was Francis Fenton of Willington, Conn.
- Jerusha Born Mar. 24, 1726 and died Oct. 25, 1804, age 78. She married Ezra Cleveland of Canterbury, Conn., son of Joseph and Sarah (Ainesworth) Cleveland.
- Elizabeth Born Dec. 19, 1727 and died July 31, 1801, age 74. She married John Barstow, son of Sgt. Joseph and Abigail (Hyde) Barstow. Settled in Canterbury, Conn.
- Samuel Born Sept. 2, 1729 and died Sept. 9, 1748, age 19, apparently unmarried.
- Jemina Born Dec. 14, 1730. No death record. Her first husband was Jonathan Lamb. They settled in Thetford, Vermont. Her second husband was Joseph Kinney, and they lived at Plainfield, Conn.
- James Born Feb. 7, 1732 and died Dec. 14, 1799, age 67. He married Submit (Downer) Davis, a widow. She was the daughter of Samuel and Phebe (Bishop) Downer. They removed to Little Hoosac, Albany Co., N.Y., and later to Stephentown, Rensselaer Co., N.Y.

SILAS NEWCOMB

Silas Newcomb, the son of Hezekiah and Jerusha (Bradford) Newcomb, was born Sept. 2, 1717 at Lebanon, Conn. He was baptized Mar. 2, 1718 in the oldest church in the old town of Lebanon. He was married by Rev. Eleazer Wheelock on Mar. 5, 1739, at Lebanon Crank, now Columbia, Conn., to Submit Pineo. [Rev. Wheelock was the first president of Dartmouth College]. Submit Pineo was born Oct. 19, 1717 at Lebanon Crank, immediately after her parents had moved there from Bristol, Rhode Island. She was baptized Nov. 10, 1717 at Lebanon. She was the daughter of James Pineo (a Huguenot, and an exile from France), and Dorothy (Babcock) Pineo. Submit Pineo lived with the family of Hezekiah Newcomb for a few years prior to her marriage to Hezekiah's son, Silas. Shortly after their first child was born in the Spring of 1741, they moved to Falltown, now Bernardston, Franklin Co., Mass. and settled there on land owned by Silas' father, Hezekiah Newcomb. At that time certain grants of land were given to him. Because of the hostility of the Indians he was compelled to leave that part of the country and return to Lebanon where he resided the rest of his life. So frequent were the incursions of the roving bands of Indians, and so great was the danger to the people, that about that time, (1744, the outbreak of the French and Indian War), the settlements at Falltown were partially abandoned. Silas Newcomb died of palsy while sitting under a tree on his farm on May 24, 1773, age 56. After his death, his widow Submit, resided with her children—the last years with her son, John. She died Feb. 12, 1804, age 87. Both are buried in the old cemetery at Lebanon near the graves of Mr. Newcomb's parents, Hezekiah and Jerusha (Bradford) Newcomb, which are a few feet from the Trumbull family tomb.

Note: There are some indications, although by no means conclusive, that the original spelling of the name, Pineo, may have been Pinot, or Pineau in France. The early English

colonists had difficulty in spelling the French names, so they devised the spelling as they sounded, or were pronounced in English. Many hundreds of French Huguenots came to America in early colonial times to escape religious persecution in their homeland and lived here in exile. Descendants of these French Huguenots produced many famous Americans.

To Silas and Submit (Pineo) Newcomb were born twelve children. Six of their eight sons served with the Colonies in the American Revolution, and three became physicians. The children were as follows:

- Jerusha Born Jan. 6, 1740 and died Feb. 9, 1813, age 73. She married Deacon Wadsworth Brewster of Lebanon. He was the son of Oliver and Martha (Wadsworth) Brewster. Deacon Wadsworth Brewster was a descendant of Elder William Brewster who came to America on the *Mayflower* in 1620.
- Daniel Lieut. Daniel Newcomb, born Nov. 18, 1741 and died Sept. 9, 1794, age 53. He married Irene Field, daughter of Aaron and Eunice (Frary) Field. He settled near Falltown at Leyden, Mass., and was a patriot in the American Revolution. He died at Leyden and is buried in Beaver Meadow Cemetery.
- Silas Dr. Silas Newcomb, born Nov. 29, 1743. He was a doctor of Medicine and was my great great great-grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward.
- Submit Born Oct. 7, 1745 and died Feb. 29, 1814, age 69. She married Consider Cushman, son of Nathaniel and Sarah (Coomer) Cushman. They settled in Greenfield, Mass.
- Bradford Born Nov. 9, 1747 and died Nov. 19, 1822, age 75. His first wife was Azubah Phelps, daughter of Jacob and Keziah (Meacham) Phelps of Lebanon. His second wife was Mrs. Ruth Marvin, a widow of New Salem, Mass. He settled first in Northfield, Mass., moved to Mansfield, Conn., and finally Greenwich, Conn. He was an American patriot in the Revolutionary War.
- Hannah Born Mar. 1, 1749 and died Aug., 1752, age 3.
- Paul Born Mar. 15, 1752 and died Aug., 1794, age 42. He married Martha Woodward and settled in Whitehall, Washington Co., N.Y. He served in the American Revolution. After his death his widow, Martha, married Medad Harvey.
- Hannah Named after her sister who died young (see above). She was born May 17, 1754 and died May 23, 1811, age 57. She married Samuel Guile, son of Samuel and Catherine (Allen) Guile. They settled in Columbia, Conn.
- Jesse Born May 26, 1756 and died May 16, 1832, age 76. He married Amy Franklin, daughter of Benjamin Franklin, a kinsman of Dr. Benjamin Franklin. They first lived in Lebanon, then Mansfield, Conn. and later removed to Darien, Genesee Co., N.Y. He served in the American Revolution.
- Calvin Dr. Calvin Newcomb, born May 22, 1758 and died Oct., 1786, age 28. He married Eunice Lee, daughter of Nathan Lee. He was a doctor of Medicine and first lived in Halifax, Vermont and later moved to Sunderland, Vt. He was accidentally drowned in the Hoosac River while riding across to see a patient. His wife Eunice remarried, to Daniel Bliss, son of Ebenezer and Rebecca (Colton) Bliss.
- John Capt. John Newcomb, born May 26, 1760 and died Apr. 18, 1822, age 62. His first wife was Theoda Hunt, daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Clark) Hunt. She died, and his second wife was Reliance (Tichnor) Strong. She was first the widow of Mr. Reed, and second, the widow of Daniel Strong, before her marriage to Capt. John Newcomb. During her marriage to Capt. Newcomb they lived in several different towns around Oswego, N.Y., before settling in Scipio, N.Y., where Mr. Newcomb died. He served in the American Revolution.

Luther Dr. Luther Newcomb, born June 12, 1762 and died June 8, 1834, age 72. He married Pamela (Larrabee) Kennedy, widow of Samuel Kennedy. Dr. Luther Newcomb served in the American Revolution. He practiced medicine and surgery for 50 years. He lived in Sunderland, Vermont; Whitehall, N.Y.; Shoreham, Vt.; New Haven, Conn. and finally Bristol, Vt.

DR. SILAS NEWCOMB

Dr. Silas Newcomb, the son of Silas and Submit (Pineo) Newcomb, was born Nov. 29, 1743 at Falltown, now Bernardston, Mass. and died at Stafford, Conn., Mar. 22, 1792, age 50. He married Susanna White at Somers, Conn., May 21, 1767. She was the daughter of John White. Dr. Newcomb preceded her in death and she remarried. Her second husband was William Scott. Soon after his birth at Falltown, Silas Newcomb's parents were driven from that part of the country because of the hostility of the Indians and the family returned to Lebanon. He studied medicine and set up a practice at Somers, Conn. In 1781 he sold to his brother Paul all rights to his father Silas Newcomb's estate. Among items in the inventory were 192 acres of land, £423; negro boy, Prince, £25; man Sip; £5; girl Nance, £25; total inventory, £965-17s-10d. After residing a few years at Somers, Dr. Newcomb removed to Stafford, Conn.

Following are the children of Dr. Silas and Susanna (White) Newcomb:

Sarah Born July 9, 1768. No death record. She married Dr. Samuel Barnes of East Haddam, Conn.

Roxanna Born 1769 and died Nov. 13, 1812, age 43, at Pittsford, N.Y. She married Joshua Phelps, son of John and Polly (Converse) Phelps of Stafford, Conn.

Silas Born 1772. He was my great great-grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward.

Eusa Born May 14, 1774. No death record. She married William Scott of Palmer, Mass.

Betsy Born July 14, 1776 and died Feb. 22, 1777, age 7 months, at Somers Conn.

SILAS NEWCOMB

Silas Newcomb, the son of Dr. Silas and Susanna (White) Newcomb, was born in 1772 at Somers, Conn. and died at Charlotte, Monroe Co., N.Y., in Feb., 1821, age 49. He married Louisa Terry of Enfield, Conn. on Apr. 2, 1800. She was born in 1781 and died Oct. 2, 1851, age 70, at Rochester, N.Y. Silas Newcomb was a custom house officer and lived for a time at Hartford, Conn. before moving to Pittsford, Monroe Co., N.Y. about 1815 and thence to Charlotte, N.Y., in 1817. He came here because of the opportunity of a position as customs officer at the newly opened Port of Charlotte. A customs district of Greece, at the Charlotte Port, was authorized by act of Congress, and passed Mar. 3, 1805, under the presidency of Thomas Jefferson. James Madison being Secretary of State.

To Silas and Louisa (Terry) Newcomb were born six children as follows:

Louisa M. Born about 1801. She married a man by the name of Boucher. No record of death or children.

Henry B. Born July 3, 1803. He was my great-grandfather. Record of his life is carried forward.

Alphonso Born about 1805 and died June, 1882, age 77. His first wife was Minerva Rhodes. His second wife was Hannah Owen, daughter of Abram and Mary (Butler) Owen of Pittsford, Vermont.

Marietta Born Aug. 1810. No. death record. She married Philip Burgess and settled in Indianola, Warren Co., Iowa.

Terry Born about 1814. Died unmarried Mar., 1883, age about 69.

Martha A. Born June 7, 1817 at Pittsford, N.Y. No death record. She married Peter Smith of Stark, N.Y. She was brought up by Judge Bates.

HENRY B. NEWCOMB

Henry Benjamin Newcomb, the son of Silas and Louisa (Terry) Newcomb, was born July 3, 1803 at Enfield, Conn. and died May 22, 1878 at Charlotte, N.Y., age 75. He was married Mar. 15, 1829, at Charlotte, to Philocha Clark, daughter of Samuel Clark of Clifton Springs, N.Y. She was born in Jan., 1810 and died Mar. 11, 1872, age 62, at Charlotte. Henry B. Newcomb came to this section with his parents from Hartford, Conn. where they lived for a short time, before coming to Pittsford, N.Y. about 1815, and thence to Charlotte in 1817. When he was a young man he lived with, and was employed by Giles H. Holden, a prominent citizen of Charlotte. Holden came from Middlebury, Vermont, and had eleven children. He was first keeper of historic Charlotte Lighthouse which was built in 1822 and still stands. He also had a warehouse and owned considerable land around Charlotte. [Charlotte, in the beginning was called Charlottesburgh]. Henry B. Newcomb assisted Holden in his duties at the lighthouse and also in his warehouse. Philocha Clark was a seamstress and was engaged by Holden to make clothes for the Holden family. It required several weeks to complete the work, during which time she lived in the Holden household. When the sewing was completed, Holden asked Henry B. Newcomb to drive Miss Clark to Rochester, where she was to obtain transportation to Canandaigua where her family then lived. On the drive to Rochester, in a horse and carriage, Henry Newcomb proposed marriage to Philocha and was accepted. Whereupon she decided to discontinue her journey home, and turning about, they returned to Charlotte and were married there on Mar. 15, 1829. He was 26 and she 19 at the time of their marriage. When they were first married they lived on the old Latta farm, and their daughter Jane, years after, told how some Indians, still in the vicinity at the time, would sometimes out of curiosity peep in the windows at night, but never molested the family. In 1831, Henry Newcomb bought 2 acres of lot 30 in Charlotte from Oliver Phelps for \$125. Henry B. and Philocha (Clark) Newcomb are buried in Old Charlotte Cemetery. They were my great-grandparents, and during their lifetime had nine children, all born at Charlotte, N.Y.

The nine children of Henry B. and Philocha (Clark) Newcomb were as follows:

Alfred C. Born Mar. 3, 1830. No death record. He married Julia Candle at Charlotte in 1850. He was a sailor out of Charlotte Harbor and later became a tailor in Charlotte. He then moved to West Bay City, Mich., where he and his sons were engaged in the fishing industry on the Great Lakes.

Louisa T. Born Sept. 28, 1832 and died in Buffalo, N.Y., Sept. 3, 1907, age 75. She married Benjamin Loper in March, 1849 and they moved to Buffalo. They had two children: Florence, born 1852 and George, born 1854. The parents of Benjamin Loper came from Connecticut, and had a large family, well known for its longevity. Four of the Lopers lived to be over 90 years old and Judson Loper lived to 102.

Jane B. Born Mar. 10, 1834 and died June 14, 1908, age 73. She lived all her life in Charlotte and was married on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, 1856 to Alonzo Cory, the son of William and Jane Cory who came from Rhode Island and

Pennsylvania, respectively, and first lived in Livingston Co., N.Y., before coming to Charlotte. He was born in 1830 and died Apr. 7, 1899, age 69. He served in the Civil War and upon his return, opened a boot shop on Latta Street in Charlotte. Later he became keeper of the old Charlotte Lighthouse. They lived in the lighthouse and he held the position of light-keeper until he died. They had two sons, William, born 1855 and died 1927, age 72; and Edgar born 1859 and died 1942, age 83, William never married. Edgar married and had two children, Jane and Edna. Edna married George Bassett.

- William H. Born Dec. 1, 1835 and died in 1919, age 84. He was married twice. His first wife was Nancy J. Olmstead, born Aug. 20, 1835 and died Nov. 10, 1857, age 22. They were married Jan. 6, 1856. She was the daughter of Harry Olmstead. They had one child, Elmira C. Capt. Newcomb's second wife was Lizzie Short, born Oct. 31, 1844 and died in 1916, age 72. She was the daughter of William Short. To the second marriage was born one child Hattie, born May 6, 1863 and died 1940, age 77. She married Seymour Kintz of Washington, D.C., and they had five children, W. Newcomb Kintz, Ivan, M. Philocha, Ernest W. and Mahlon E. Capt. William Newcomb was captain of several sailing ships on Lake Ontario. Among the ships under his command were the schooners, *Grey Eagle*, the *Otonabee* and the *E. K. Hart*. The *E. K. Hart*, which he owned, was enlarged and fitted for coastwise service and was wrecked in a storm off Cape Hatteras, N.C., (often called the graveyard of the Atlantic). Capt. Newcomb was also an officer on the Village Board at Charlotte for several years around 1895, and was a member of the Charlotte Fire Department.
- Almira A. Born Mar. 5, 1838 and died Aug., 1861, age 23. She married Smith Benjamin in Oct., 1854.
- Bianca P. Born Jan. 11, 1842 and died June 27, 1923, age 81. She married James M. Norton, son of Justin Norton, on Sept. 10, 1867. She was Norton's second wife. Mr. Norton's first wife had one son, Harlow. Bianca, his second wife had no children. She was usually referred to as Aunt Bine, and holds a special place in my childhood memories as a neat, gentle lady whose personable way with children unfailingly won their devotion.
- Frederick A. Born Nov. 11, 1843. His first wife was Sarah Irish, born 1850, of Port Hope Canada, whom he married at Otsego, N.Y. on Aug. 9, 1867. His second wife was Nellie Stapleton, born Aug. 3, 1854 at Fethard, Ireland, whom he married Dec. 2, 1879. One child was born to the second marriage, Harry A., born Sept. 15, 1880. He went to Kalamazoo, Mich., and was a postal employee there. He married Grace Phillips and had no children. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieut. in World War I. Capt. Frederick Newcomb was a mariner and small boat builder. In the early part of the Civil War, he was one of the crew of the U.S. Naval Ship, *Mercidela*. Later he enlisted and was a member of Co. C., 8th N.Y. Cavalry. After the War he resumed his sailing career, and during a trip through the Gulf of Mexico, in the Spring of 1895, his schooner was demasted and all rigging swept clear of the deck in a hurricane. He was taken from wreckage floating in the Gulf, 500 miles off the coast of Texas and died in a Galveston hospital on Mar. 24, 1895, age 52.
- Frances M. Born Feb. 1, 1847 and died Dec. 22, 1879, age 32. She married John Russell on May 28, 1864.
- George B. Born Aug. 1, 1849. He was my grandfather. Record of his life will follow.

GEORGE B. NEWCOMB

George Benjamin Newcomb, the son of Henry B. and Philocha (Clark) Newcomb was born Aug. 1, 1849, at Charlotte and died here at the family home on Jan. 20, 1924, age 74. He was my grandfather. As a young man, and for some time after his marriage, he was engaged in sailing aboard ships operating on Lake Ontario in the shipping trade with Canada. Thus he met Sarah Rachel Stephenson in Port Hope, Province of Ontario, Canada. They were married there in the Regular Baptist Church, by the Rev. Joseph Nimp, on June 19, 1873. Sarah R. Stephenson was born on Valentines Day, Feb. 14, 1848 and died here at the family home on June 14, 1921, age 73. She was the daughter of George and Sarah (Ward) Stephenson of Port Hope. Both grandparents are buried in Riverside Cemetery. George B. Newcomb was assistant keeper of the old Charlotte Lighthouse from 1893 to 1900. It was properly called Genesee Light Station. In 1906 he left Charlotte, where he owned a home on Pollard Avenue, and moved in with our family here at the family homestead. He and my grandmother Newcomb remained here the rest of their lives working with my grandfather and grandmother Kirk on the farm.

To George B. and Sarah (Stephenson) Newcomb were born two children:

James H. Born Sept. 17, 1875. He was my father. Record of his life is carried forward.

George H. George Harlo Newcomb, born Sept. 16, 1877 and died in March, 1944, age 67. He married Anna Burns, daughter of Terry and Bridget (Callahan) Burns. Her father, Terry Burns, was an early policeman in the Village of Charlotte. He was the son of Patrick and Ann Burns who both came to this section from Ireland in 1852. [Patrick Burns was either a cousin or nephew of the first Terry Burns portrayed in the early part of this booklet.] George and Anna (Burns) Newcomb were married about 1905, at the parsonage of Parma-Greece Christian Church, by Rev. Alexander MacKenzie. She was born Nov. 8, 1882 and died Nov. 20, 1948, age 66. George H. Newcomb was a member of the U.S. Coast Guard at Charlotte for several years before going to Kodak Park where he worked for over 30 years until retirement. Both he and his wife are buried in Riverside Cemetery. To George and Anna (Burns) Newcomb were born two children: William and Terrance. William was born June 22, 1907. During World War II he served with the U.S. Army in the 877th Div. of Airborne Engineers. He married Alice Wagner, daughter of William and Lena Wagner, and have two children, Katherine and George William. Terrance Newcomb was born Nov. 11, 1911 and died May 1, 1945, age 33. During World War II he was with the U.S. Army, 77th Infantry Div., and was killed in infantry action on Okinawa. He was buried in the National Cemetery in Hawaii. During the War he won several decorations, including the Silver Star, and saw service at Guam, Leyte, Luzon, Shuri and Okinawa. Terrance Newcomb married Alice Kerr, daughter of George and Ruby (Latta) Kerr and they had one child, a son, Irving. He married Joyce Mitchell on July 7, 1956.

JAMES H. NEWCOMB

James Henry Newcomb, the son of George B. and Sarah (Stephenson) Newcomb, was born on Sept. 17, 1875. He was my father. As a young man he was employed in the general store of the Denise Bros., early merchants of Charlotte. He married my mother Clara Elizabeth Kirk, on Apr. 7, 1904, when he was 28 and she was 19. She was born on Dec. 28, 1884. Their marriage was performed here at the family home by Rev. Frederick Lindsay, pastor of the Lakeside Presbyterian Church. After their marriage, my father and mother lived here at the homestead with my mother's parents. During the first years of their marriage he worked in partnership with my grandfather

Kirk on the farm. Later, my father was employed at Eastman Kodak Co. at Kodak Park and worked there until 1933. He had one interruption in his service at Kodak for a few years around 1916, when he left there and resumed work on the farm. During this time, for a short period, he was employed at the Vinegar plant on Kirk Road, and also on the old Manitou Railway line. Both of these last mentioned concerns have long since past out of existence. In his later years my father became afflicted with Parkinson's disease, commonly known as shaking palsy, and was troubled with this the rest of his life. His last years were spent in semi-inactivity, doing small chores about the house, listening to the radio, or reading while sitting in his favorite chair near the large fireplace. He was a gentle, quiet man of extreme patience and good moral worth. He never complained and seldom if ever raised his voice in anger. He died on Apr. 26, 1953, age 77, and was buried in Riverside Cemetery. As stated previously, James H. Newcomb married Clara E. Kirk, the daughter of John F. and Rachel (Veeder) Kirk. She attended Greece Dist. No. 14 School and Charlotte High School. Greatly interested in church work, she has been a member of the Lakeside Presbyterian Church all her life. She was Superintendent of the Sunday school there for a number of years. In her younger years she was active in health work in the Town of Greece, and pioneered in conducting dental clinics for ural school children in her district. She has been a long-time member of the Mt. Read Home Bureau, joining shortly after its organization in 1919. Her life has been busy and useful, pervaded with an atmosphere of ambition, and a desire to be helpful to others.

To James H. and Clara (Kirk) Newcomb were born six children—all born in the the family homestead at the end of the Newcomb Road, off Kirk Road, Greece, N.Y.

- Fred G. Born May 24, 1905. He married Alice H. Smith, born Oct. 11, 1905, the daughter of Melvin L. and Maud (Cole) Smith of Livonia and Conesus, N.Y., respectively. Mrs. Smith's first husband died. She remarried to John Marks of Cohocton, N.Y. Fred G. and Alice (Smith) Newcomb were married on Jan. 17, 1932 at the Lake Avenue Baptist Church by Rev. Whitney Yeaple. To them were born two children: Doris, born Oct. 2, 1933 and Richard, born Jan. 6, 1937.
- Floyd W. Born May 24, 1907. He married Ina A. Geer, born Feb. 22, 1918, the daughter of Raymond and Ina (Sherman) Geer of Rochester, N.Y. Floyd W. and Ina (Geer) Newcomb were married on Feb. 24, 1940 at the Dewey Avenue Evangelical Reformed Church by Rev. Theodore L. Trost. To them were born two children: Carol, born Dec. 30, 1940 and Debra, born Feb. 17, 1955.
- Arthur R. Born Dec. 14, 1908. He married Mary E. Barringer, born May 15, 1910 at Herkimer, N.Y., the daughter of Emerson and Grace (Goodman) Barringer. Arthur R. and Mary (Barringer) Newcomb were married at the Parma-Greece Christian Church on June 8, 1935 by Rev. James P. Wilbourne assisted by Rev. Avery McClure. To them were born two children: Donald, born Nov. 3, 1939 and Thomas, born May 8, 1945.
- Evelyn B. Born Aug. 17, 1910. She married Carl H. Bergman, born Aug. 15, 1911, in the Town of Carlton, near Lakeside Park, Orleans Co., N.Y., the son of Ernest and Amelia (Hanke) Bergman. Carl H. and Evelyn (Newcomb) Bergman were married on Apr. 3, 1937 at the Lake Avenue Baptist Church by Rev. Whitney Yeaple. To them was born one child, a daughter, Charlene on May 26, 1947. When death closed her sweet blue eyes on Mar. 6, 1949, age 22 months, it left a never, never to be forgotten sorrow in the hearts of her loving and devoted parents.
- John A. John Alfred Newcomb, born June 26, 1912 and died July 1, 1912.
- Laura N. Born May 24, 1918. She married Clarence B. Hoyt, born Aug. 29, 1916, the son of Clarence and Anna (Wohlschlegel) Hoyt of Naples, N.Y. Clarence and Laura (Newcomb) Hoyt were married on Apr. 17, 1939 at the Church of the Reformation, Grove Street, Rochester, N.Y. To them were born two children: Ann, born Feb. 18, 1940 and James, born May 16, 1943.

Note: It is of interest to note that Fred, Floyd and Laura were all born on the 24th of May.

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MARY KIRK

One of

PENNSYLVANIA'S NOTABLE WOMEN

PENNSYLVANIA'S NOTABLE WOMEN

*Nominated for inclusion in the Book of Honor to be placed
in Strawberry Mansion, Fairmount Park*

A sponsoring committee representing various women's historical organizations has requested the Public Ledger to collect names and data of distinguished women in Pennsylvania's history to be preserved in a "Book of Honor," which will be placed in Strawberry Mansion in Fairmount Park when that historic structure has been restored. The Public Ledger invites any public-spirited citizen to send nominations for such a memorial list of Pennsylvania women. This is a series of sketches of these distinguished women prepared from data submitted. Additional nominations with accompanying data in the form of brief sketches should be sent promptly to "Memorial of Pennsylvania Women," in care of the Public Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

MARY KIRK

Nominated by the Northumberland County Historical Society

Among the women of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, who performed noble work for family and country during the Revolution, Mary Kirk stands as a woman of energy and resource.

The Genealogical and Biographical Annals of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, says: "Moses Kirk was born in Scotland and before 1775 was one of the earliest taxables in what was then Turbut Township, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, having settled near the present site of Warrior Run Church . . ."

He bought a tract called Partnership, situate on a branch of Warrior Run, containing 320 acres, "which tract was surveyed in pursuance of application No. 181, dated April 3, 1769, granted to Moses Kirk," as recited in a deed dated Nov. 24, 1796, wherein the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with his will granted this tract to his sons, William and James. This deed is recorded in Northumberland County Deed Book 1, page 227, at Sunbury.

Meginness in his "Otzinachson" states that the families of many settlers gathered into Fort Freeland in the fall of 1778 and lived there that winter for protection from the Indians, among them being the family of Moses Kirk.

According to the Genealogical and Biographical Annals, Moses Kirk "died before 1779, as his widow, Mary Kirk was in Fort Freeland with her ten children when it was surrendered to the British and Indian forces that year. During the conflict she was one of those who melted pewter and plate, all the metal that could be had, and made it into bullets for the men who were defending the fort."

The Battle of Fort Freeland took place on July 28, 1779. The book "Otzinachson" says: "The fort contained only twenty-one effective men and a large number of women and children. But there were brave women in the fort, and when apprised of the danger, Mary Kirk and Phoebe Vincent commenced to run bullets for the rifles of the men and continued at this work as long as they had a dish or spoon that would melt."

The men in the fort gave stubborn resistance to the attack of the British and Indians, numbering about 400, which finally ended in the capitulation of the fort. The articles of capitulation, as given in "Otzinachson," provided that "all men bearing arms are to surrender themselves prisoners of war and to be sent to Niagara. The women and children are not to be stripped of any clothing they are wearing nor molested by the Indians, and to be at liberty to move down the country where they please."

"While the respective commanders were discussing the terms of surrender the women were not idle in the fort. Every one put on as much clothing as she could possibly wear, taking care also to fill her pockets with every little thing of value that could be obtained in this way.

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"When Mrs. Kirk heard the terms on which they were to be set free, she put female clothes on her son William, a lad of 16, and he escaped with the women.

"They all left the fort by 12 o'clock noon, not one of them having eaten a bite that day, and not a child was heard to cry or ask for bread. They reached Northumberland, 18 miles distant, that night, and there drew their rations, the first they had to eat that day.

Genealogical and Biographical Annals further says: "The mother (Mrs. Kirk) and her family reached Fort Augusta safely, and after peace was declared returned to the old home. They reconstructed the buildings, and under her guidance cleared the land and improved it."

Of the ten children of Mary Kirk and her husband, Moses, we are able to name seven only, whose names are to be found in a release among the heirs of Moses Kirk, recorded in Northumberland County Deed Book 1, page 313, under date of Mar. 14, 1797. They are William Kirk, named before, who married Jane Knox; James Kirk, who married Mary Foster; Isabella Kirk, who married Aaron Himrod; Sarah Kirk, who married Joseph Reynolds; Ann Kirk, who married David McNight; Mary Kirk; and Catharine Kirk, who married Andrew Himrod.

Mrs. Mary Kirk is buried in the cemetery adjoining the old Warrior Run Presbyterian Church, above McEwensville, Pa. near the site of Fort Freeland. She died in November, 1804, aged 82 years.

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